

Home Computing WEEKLY

An Argus Specialist Publication

FREE WEEK: More software news than any other magazine

No.35
November 1-7, 1983

38p

FREE COMPETITION

Spectrum Microdrive to be won, plus 100 prizes of

New Generation Software

NEW: Top 30 software chart. Plus: Top 10 charts for Commodore 64, VIC-20, ZX81, Spectrum and Dragon

Software reviews for: Oric, Lynx, Spectrum, Texas, BBC Jupiter Ace, Commodore 64

Great Guy Fawkes program to type into your Spectrum

More programs to type in for: Oric, Atari, VIC-20, ZX81 and Texas



Taiwanese micro takes on the BBC

A new computer is being designed in Bradford and made in the Midlands... by a giant Taiwanese company.

It is to make its public debut at a show next March, said Kevin Hayes, sales development manager of Tating (UK).

Although it would be in the upper price range, Mr Hayes said many features usually sold as extras would be built in.

There would be a range of three or four and the base model would offer: a typewriter-style keyboard with cursor keys, 64K of RAM, a single three-inch Hitachi disc drive, colour, 40-column screen - with an option for 80 columns - Microsoft-continued on page 5

Long wait for Electron

Unless you strike lucky, you'll have to wait weeks for Acorn's new computer, the £199 Electron.

There are eight possible customers for every single machine, and W.H. Smith's merchandise controller Stewart Binnie said: "Our branches are under siege."

Production in Malaysia had not got under way as quickly as hoped, said Robert Blood, for Acorn.

In a message to people waiting, continued on page 5

NEW RELEASES

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HERE COMES HORACE!

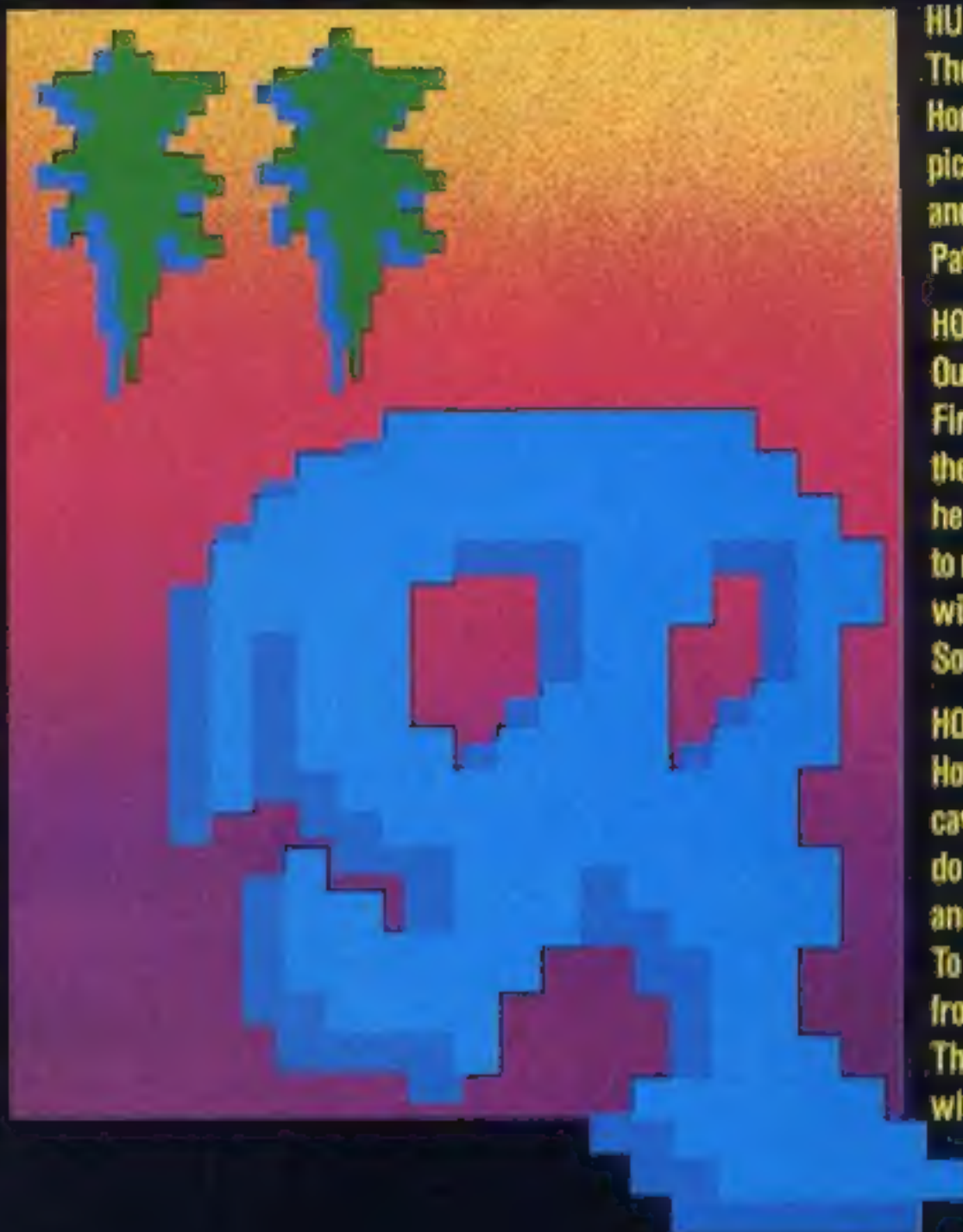
Just when you thought microcomputer games had nothing more to offer, here comes Horace!

It has been said that Horace games are in a class of their own: in fact, Horace is almost a legend.

Horace is a cute, lovable, animated character who races through adventures, creating havoc wherever he goes, and the good news is that Horace games are now available for most microcomputers.

When Horace was first introduced to computer owners in the game "Hungry Horace", he immediately became a cult figure, winning the hearts of thousands of computer owners. Now, you too can enjoy the hair-raising adventures of Horace.

The Horace series of games brings you splendid graphics, addictive games and a lovable mischievous character, for only £5.95 per cassette.



HUNGRY HORACE

The original Horace adventure. Horace creates havoc in the park as he picks the flowers, annoys the guards and steals their lunch. Patently ridiculous, but great fun.

HORACE GOES SKIING

Our hero attempts winter sports: First of all he must get to the ski shop, then lumbered with a pair of skis, he has to dodge the traffic once again to reach the snow. Skiing is complete with slalom flags, trees and moguls. So watch out, Horace!

HORACE AND THE SPIDERS

Horace's task is to rid the mountain caves of spiders. But before he can do that he must climb the mountain and reach the dreaded spider bridge. To cross it, Horace must swing from spider thread to spider thread! This game is challenging and fun with some amazing animation.



MELBOURNE HOUSE



Melbourne House Publishers

Spectrum

Spectrum version of Horace games are available from selected branches of WH Smith, Boots and Menzies or directly from Sinclair Research Ltd.

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Commodore 64 Hungry Horace £5.95
Commodore 64 Horace Goes Skiing £5.95

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HCW 1/11



**BBC BEST
NEW CATALOGUE**

Send 50p stamp to:
**Software Supermarket,
87 Howard's Lane,
London SW15 6NU**

Briefly

Nigel Smith of the Which? Money team wrote Taxcalc, a program which claims to be able to tell most users exactly how much tax they should have paid. Written for the BBC B micro, it is published by the BBC and costs £17.25.

*Consumers' Association,
Castlemead, Gascoyne Way,
Heris SG14 1LH*

HMV shops has taken the first step into computer software retailing by opening a software department in its main Oxford Street store. The department will stock 70-80 games titles for the Spectrum, ZX81, VIC-20, Oric, BBC, Atari 400/800 and Dragon, and more titles will be added as they become available. And if they don't have the game you want, they will order it specially for you.

*HMV Shop, 363 Oxford Street,
London W1*

New software house Acme has launched its first three games, all costing £5. Connect Four runs on the Lynx, Practically Impossible is for the Spectrum and Bridgeman is for the VIC-20.

*Acme, 49/51 The Albany, Old
Hull Street, Liverpool,
Merseyside L3 9EJ*

Longman Software is following up its first three educational programs with four new titles for the Spectrum and BBC. The Spectrum titles, all at £7.95, are Lunar Letters, Robot Runner, Sum Scruncher and Wild Words, aimed at children of around six. For the BBC, there's Sheepdog, Number Rally, Number Skills 0-20 and Number Skills 0-999, all covering the four to eight age group and costing £9.95.

*Longman Software, Longman
House, Burnt Mill, Harlow,
Essex CM20 2JE*

Psion's latest release for the BBC, Saloon Sally, is an action game with a difference. It's got a heroine rather than a hero, and the action is linked to a musical theme. There's an element of strategy, too. Price: £7.95, on sale now in W H Smith.

*Psion, 2 Huntsworth Mews,
Gloucester Place, London NW1
6DD*

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BUY THIS SPACE

To advertise
your latest products!
Ring Coleen or Barry on
01-437 1002 NOW!



There's a Microdrive and some great games to win on page 39



If you own an Atari you'll want to type in the first in our series of card games. Turn to page 31



Have fun - and be serious, too - with five programs for the ZX81 which fit into just 1K. They start on page 25

• Were you a winner in our Spot the Difference competition, run in conjunction with Rabbit Software in issue No. 31? Turn to the news pages and find out. The solution is there as well

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 Design: The 'ULTIMATE PLAY THE GAME' Design Team.

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 and packing in UK.

ULTIMATE PLAY THE GAME is a
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New Micro

From front page

like BASIC, RS-232 and Centronics-type interfaces and a Z80A processor. A range of software would be ready at launch.

Mr Hayes said he saw three main types of buyer:

- Owners of computers like the Spectrum who wanted to move on to a more powerful and sophisticated micro
- Educational
- Small businesses, particularly because of the new computer's operating system which would be similar to CP/M, the industry standard for business micros

Asked about Tatung's chances in the highly competitive computer market, Mr Hayes said: "We have the financial clout behind us which some other companies do not have - and they won't be around in two to three years."

He said Tatung, the largest company in Taiwan, had a \$5,000m worldwide turnover. Its range of products included ships to computer terminals for companies like Zenith, IBM and Control Data.

In the electrical goods industry, it is best known in the UK for its purchase in 1981 of Decca's consumer electronics division. The company's Bridgnorth plant now makes 10 per cent of all the country's TVs, according to industry observers.

It also makes a range of VDUs.

Competition for the new computer would come from micros like the BBC model, made by Acorn.

On pricing, Mr Hayes said: "I see prices rise for items like memory while companies are bringing down the retail cost. It seems to me to be a formula for disaster."

The market for computers was growing, he said, adding: "We have a lot of experience in selling in the consumer market - everything from rice cookers to washing machines. So we do not have to buy in these services."

Tatung (UK), Hospital Street, Bridgnorth, Shrops

Clive's plans to live in style

Builders are converting an old warehouse in central London into a luxury home for millionaire computer boss Sir Clive Sinclair.

When finished it will have a basement swimming pool and a roof-level conservatory, with ground, mezzanine, first and second floors in between.

The work is costing Sir Clive

Electron Wait

From front page

he said: "We would like to offer our sympathy, but for some months you won't be able to walk into a shop and buy one off the shelf."

Mr Binnie said: "We have been through this before with the ZX81 and the Spectrum."

Demand had been particularly high because of the Electron's relationship with the BBC micro. The Electron is often described as a "cut down" BBC computer because the two are so similar.

He expected supplies to improve this month and advised people to check regularly with their nearest branches.

He explained that Smiths did not operate waiting lists because customers would be annoyed at seeing reserved computers on the shelves.

Mr Blood said: "The situation of supply not meeting demand is going to last at least until Christmas. It's going to be very hard to get hold of for some time yet."

The plant in Malaysia was to have been turning out Electrons at 25,000 a month but was not yet up to capacity.

Another plant, in Wales, was due to begin production at the beginning of next year with a 100,000 initial order and a third plant was also planned.

There has, however, been something of a silver lining for Acorn. Customers finding there were no Electrons have been buying £399 BBC micros instead, said Mr Blood.

● Computer sales had increased "quite markedly" in the run-up to Christmas, said Mr Binnie. But, in an increasingly sophisticated market, sales of some models had remained the same. He would not name them, commenting: "I think it's going to be a ruthless Christmas."

W.H. Smith & Son, Strand House, 10 New Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1AD

Acorn Computers, Fulbourn Road, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge CB1 4JN

£400,000 and he may well then give up his flat in London.

Gutting the building and providing an enlarged basement has meant underpinning neighbouring buildings and strengthening the foundations.

John Parry, general manager of John Willmott Western Building, said: "It's a very challenging contract - the type of work we would usually do for overseas clients. It will be quite a feather in our cap when it's finished."



The COMX 35 - with built-in joystick

COMX comes off the shelves

Sales of the Hong Kong-made COMX 35 computer here have been halted - because more than half did not work.

U.K. distributors Computers For All sent nearly 600 back to the makers.

CFA's joint managing director, Sieve Vickers, said: "Every single one was unpacked and switched on for a functional test. We had a 55 per cent failure rate."

"The company was also very poor on support, at supplying things like replacement pcbs and spares."

"We have been in touch with every dealer and returned their machines. We've managed to clean up as best as we can. I

believe less than 30 or 40 were sold.

"If they break down we will repair them if we can, or give a full refund."

Mr Vickers said his company took on the sole U.K. distribution rights because the features the computer offered, like low-power CMOS chips - leading to possible use as a portable - ANSI standard BASIC and a good memory, 35K with 32K useable.

He said negotiations with Germaine Video, of Hong Kong, had brought down the retail price to £119.95 for the 70 dealers supplied by CFA.

"All in all it wasn't a bad machine," he said. "I think it's still on sale in other parts of Europe. I estimate we lost about £1,000, without the cost of delivery and so on. But it's the principle that counts."

CFA is a distributor for a number of big-name micros, like Commodore, Sord, Laser 200 and Acorn.

Micros in BHS

British Home Stores has joined other High Street chains offering home computers. And merchandise controller Hugh Clark said: "There's room for us to reach some meaningful sales."

Sinclair, Commodore and Dragon computers, plus software, are now in 21 new BHS electrical departments, alongside goods like TVs, radios and telephones. Two staff from each store had taken a special training course, said Mr Clark.

British Home Stores, 129 Marylebone Rd, London NW1 5QD

Our new charts

This week we start two new software charts - a nationwide Top 30 for all computers and an additional Top 10 from Boots for the Commodore 64.

The Top 30 will be produced fortnightly, at first, by PCS Distribution, based on guidelines from the Computer Trade Association whose legal adviser, Ann Staines, will be making spot checks.

The positions are based on retail sales in individual outlets - excluding chains at present - and software from all sources is included.

The names of the retailers remain confidential and, as an extra safeguard, 25 per cent of the returns are discarded at random.

The Commodore 64 chart is based on sales of software stocked by Boots. We will continue with our weekly charts for the Spectrum, from Smiths, and the VIC-20, ZX81 and Dragon, from Boots.



Sir Clive - living in style

Portable processing

Rotronics' computer case is fitted with foam to hold your computer equipment securely while you're carrying it about.

Versions are available for the ZX81 and Spectrum, VIC-20, Commodore 64 and Oric, and there's room for a cassette recorder, printer, printer paper, power supply and cassettes. Computer books can be stored in

the lid.

But if you own a different computer, or if you have other equipment you want to store, Rotronics sells blank foam inserts that you can shape to suit your own requirements.

All trailing wires are hidden under the form padding, so all you have to do is plug into the mains and TV and your equipment's ready to use.

The case costs £36.99. Rotronics, 29 Octagon Parade, High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 2HZ



Computer equipment packed away in a Rotronics case

IBM's home computer: all the 'facts'

IBM was keeping silent, but several observers believed the company's long-awaited home computer was to be announced today (Tuesday).

With no official details available — not even the micro's name — the following is culled from reports here and in America.

There will be two models, both using domestic TVs and the same Intel 8088 processor as IBM's enormously popular Personal Computer.

The base model will have 64K of RAM and use a cassette recorder. Price estimate: \$750-\$800.

The pricier version, at \$1,200-\$1,350, will have 128K of RAM and a built-in floppy disc drive.

Both have cartridge slots and, it is said, a cordless typewriter-style keyboard. An infra-red beam will control the main unit, similar to a TV remote control.

IBM is reckoned to have cornered 26 per cent of the US micro market with the IBM PC and 650,000 have been sold worldwide since it was launched

in August 1981. And the company could sell about six times as many as it produces.

PCs are also made in the UK, where it is said to be the second most popular business micro.

If the November 1 launch date for the PC Junior — codenamed Peanut — is true, one observer says sales of 80,000-100,000 are on the cards in the US by Christmas.

Outside IBM, nobody knows when it can be expected here. The PC was in the UK within a year of its US launch. But before then some dealers were selling "grey" imports.

IBM United Kingdom, PO Box 41, North Harbour (Baltic House), Portsmouth PO6 3AU

CTA awards

Oscars for software are to be awarded in February, decided by the votes of Computer Trade Association members.

Voting will take place in January for the best home, educational and business programs, an overall program of the year, person of the year and product of the year.

Computer Trade Association, 108 Margaret Street, Coalville, Leics LE6 2LX

Spot the winners

Congratulations to the 25 winners of our spot the difference competition, run in conjunction with Rabbit Software in issue No. 31.

We asked you to study two cartoons and mark the differences and tell us how many there were.

The correct number was 12 and this is how the two cartoons differed, from the top:

- one figure missing from screen
- bowler hat missing
- rabbit ear omitted
- two fewer bullets firing from rabbit's rifle
- bough missing from tree to right of screen
- part of keyboard on left omitted
- one less key on right
- carrots' foliage changed
- can of "Lettuce Bitter" had no hole in top
- two whiskers missing from rabbit in newspaper
- beginning of newspaper article omitted

ASA steps in over micro ads

Computer companies including Acorn and Oric have been criticised by the Advertising Standards Authority for misleading adverts, after members of the public complained.

Acorn had advertised, along with the BBC micro, some peripherals that were not yet available, including Prestel and Teletext adaptors.

To make matters worse, they claimed that using these adaptors to load broadcast software was "another first for the BBC micro", whereas the Research Machines 380Z was actually the first machine to be able to receive telesoftware.

Lastly, Acorn has claimed that over 75% of computers going into schools were BBC micros.

What they did not make clear was that this only referred to primary schools — and even then, only to orders for computers made under the Department of Industry's Micros in Primary Schools scheme.

Oric came under attack for using in one of its ads a quotation from a computer mag. The quotation was accurate — but the magazine had got its facts wrong!

The quote, from a hardware review in Which Micro?, said that "Instead of the Spectrum's 28 look-up single character error reports, the Oric has 18 self-explanatory messages."

But a member of the public pointed out that the look-up error reports were a feature of the

● figure 20 on packet of "Carrot Fags" missing

We offered prizes of £40-worth of games from Rabbit Software's range to each of the 25 winners and these prizes will arrive from Rabbit within 28 days.

The winners were the first 25 correct entries we opened, regardless of computer owned. They are:

VIC-20 owners: Carl Phillips, of Salford; R. Coppock, Northwich; Christopher Davies, Swansea; Damian Maidment, Sheffield; Andrew Mason, Coventry; Craig Taylor, Bacup; Jason Clive, Belvedere; Timothy Multon, Denham Green; W. Belle, Winson Green; Edward King, Bridgwater; Mark Arnold, Copnor.

Spectrum owners: B. Christie, of Tayside; E. McLean, Edinburgh; S.H. Gilbert, Camborne; Christopher Hall, Belfast; Neil Cantello, Alton; Jonathan Denham, Woodham Ferrers; Mrs K. Salfi, Leeds; Steven Horne, Hull; John Dytrych, Ashington.

Commodore 64 owners: R. Pearson, Kettering; G.D. Clements, Elgin; Michael Payne, Hull; Steven Kirk, Bedlington; Neil Boothman, Manchester.

ZX81, not the Spectrum.

A computer add-on maker, Solidisk Technology of Southend-on-Sea, was asked to change an ad which stated that its X ROM Card could be used with the Sinclair RAM pack.

When a micro owner from London tried to order the X ROM, they were told that it would cost extra if it was to be used with the Sinclair RAM pack instead of the manufacturer's own — and that it wasn't available anyway.

Finally, a micro enthusiast from Darlington travelled 150 miles to the Scottish Personal Computer World Show in Edinburgh, only to find that the show had been cancelled.

The ASA stepped in, and show organisers Montbuild reimbursed the disappointed enthusiast's petrol costs — plus two complimentary tickets for the next show.

ASA, Brook House, Torrington Place, London WC1E 7HN

25 for the 25th

dk'tronics has brought out a bumper 25 new programs for Christmas — 13 for the Spectrum, four for the BBC micro, five for the Commodore 64, two for the unexpanded VIC-20 and one for the 16K ZX81.

Among them is Slicker, a £6.95 puzzle game available for four computers: Spectrum, VIC-20, Commodore 64 and BBC.

This latest batch means that the company now has a range of 46 titles for five micros.

Top Ten programs for the ZX81

1	Football Manager	Addictive (8)
2	Flight Simulation	Sinclair (1)
3	Espionage Island	Sinclair (3)
4	Space Raiders	Sinclair (2)
5	Scramble	Quicksilva (7)
6	1K Games	Sinclair (4)
7	1K Chess	Sinclair (4)
8	Ship of Doom	Sinclair (9)
9	Defender	Quicksilva (6)
10	Fantasy Games	Sinclair (5)

Compiled by Boots. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

Top Ten programs for the VIC-20

1	Gridrunner	Llamosoft (4)
2	Arcadia	Imagine (4)
3	Catcha Snatcha	Imagine (-)
4	Wacky Waiters	Imagine (3)
5	Cosmiads	Bug Byte (-)
6	Bonzo	Audiogenic (-)
7	Skyhawk	Quicksilva (7)
8	Home Office	Audiogenic (-)
9	Anti-Matter Splatter	Rabbit (-)
10	Wizard and the Princess	Melbourne House (-)

Compiled by Boots. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

Top Ten programs for the Dragon

1	Nightflight	Salamander (7)
2	Ring of Darkness	Wintersoft (1)
3	Android Attack	Microdeal (8)
4	Cuthbert Goes Walkabout	Microdeal (3)
5	Space War	Microdeal (-)
6	Champions	Peaksoft (5)
7	Mined Out	Quicksilva (6)
8	Dragonfly	Hewson (-)
9	Space Shuttle	Microdeal (4)
10	Franklin's Tomb	Salamander (10)

Compiled by Boots. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

Top Ten programs for the Spectrum

1	Zzoom	Imagine (2)
2	Jet Pac	Ultimate (5)
3	Flight Simulation	Psion (1)
4	Terror-daktil	Melbourne House (-)
5	Trans-Am	Ultimate (3)
6	Pssst	Ultimate (-)
7	Zip-Zap	Imagine (4)
8	Kong	Ocean (6)
9	Horace and the Spiders	Psion/M. House (-)
10	Arcadia	Imagine (-)

Compiled by W. H. Smith. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

BEST SELLERS

Top 30

1	Manic Miner	Bug Byte	Spectrum
2	Jet Pac	Ultimate	Spectrum
3	Trans-Am	Ultimate	Spectrum
4	Cookie	Ultimate	Spectrum
5	3D Combat Zone	Artic	Spectrum
6	Zzoom	Imagine	Spectrum
7	Chuckie Egg	A & F	Spectrum
8	Johnny Reb	Lothlorien	Spectrum
9	Krazy Kong	Anirog	VIC-20
10	Horace Goes Skiing	Psion	Spectrum
11	Pssst	Ultimate	Spectrum
12	Cuthbert in the Jungle	Microdeal	Dragon
13	Penetrator	Melbourne House	Spectrum
14	Frogger	Microdeal	Spectrum
15	Cuthbert Goes Walkabout	Microdeal	Dragon
16	Frogger	C-Tech	BBC
17	Space Shuttle	Microdeal	Dragon
18	Splat	Incentive	Spectrum
19	Gold Mine	dk'tronics	Spectrum
20	Labyrinth	Commodore	CBM 64
21	Intergalactic Force	Microdeal	Dragon
22	Hall of the Things	Crystal	Spectrum
23	Horace and the Spiders	Psion	Spectrum
24	Redweed	Lothlorien	Spectrum
25	Jumpin' Jack	Imagine	Spectrum
26	Kong	Ocean	Spectrum
27	Hunchback	Superior	BBC
28	Devils of the Deep	Richard Shepherd	Spectrum
29	Sargon Chess	Commodore	VIC-20
30	Dungeon Master	Crystal	Spectrum

Compiled by PCS Distribution (0254 691211) and sanctioned by the Computer Trade Association. Chart is for retail sales in individual outlets in the UK and Northern Ireland for the fortnight ended October 22

Top Ten programs for the Commodore 64

1	Hover Bover	Llamosoft (1)
2	Attack of the Mutant Camels	Llamosoft (-)
3	Frogger	Interceptor (2)
4	Escape MCP	Rabbit (-)
5	Motor Mania	Audiogenic (-)
6	Gridrunner	Llamosoft (-)
7	Scramble	Interceptor (-)
8	Laser Zone	Llamosoft (-)
9	Grand Master Chess	Audiogenic (-)
10	Tank Attack	Supersoft (-)

Compiled by Boots. Figures in brackets are last week's positions

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COMMODORE 64

KONG

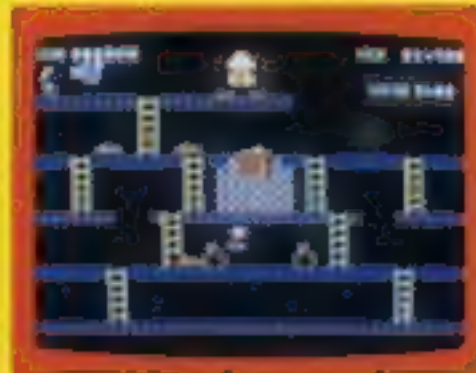
KB / JS

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2. JUMP OVER THE PIES AS YOU RUN ALONG THE CONVEYOR BELT MAKE SURE YOU DONT END UP INSIDE THE COOKER.



3. THE ONLY WAY UP IS BY THE LIFT WHICH IS UNDER A CONSTANT BARRAGE OF GIRDERS.



4. KNOCK OUT ALL THE SUPPORTS BY RUNNING OVER THEM AND WITNESS THE SPECTACULAR COLLAPSE OF KONGS LAIR.

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J.S.

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Motor-vated games for your micro

Our review panel finds itself behind the wheels of cars, a motor mover and a light cycle

Racer 48K Lynx £6.95

Sian Software, 139 Rosebery Avenue, Manor Park, London E12 6PT

This is a simple game which involves steering a red car along a one way street occupied by numerous other yellow cars, travelling at the same speed.

The aim of the game is to drive

the red car faster than the yellow cars, avoiding collisions by weaving between them — the object being to drive the furthest distance.

However, the fuel consumption has to be taken into account, because if the car travels too slowly it will burn too much fuel and hence run out before reaching the next garage.

The amount of fuel available and the distance to the next refuelling station are continuous-

ly displayed on the screen.

The game ends after four collisions or when the fuel runs out. At the end of the game the five best distances travelled are displayed with the names of the drivers. This last feature is worth noting, as a group of people can take turns at driving and then compare their respective scores.

Although this game can only be played at one level, it is well

designed and amusing. If played in groups, it will certainly help pass winter evenings and maybe put a few brugging drivers in their place.

instructions	90%
playability	85%
graphics	85%
value for money	75%



Canyon 32K BBC £10

British Broadcasting Corporation, 35 Marylebone High Street, London W1M 4AA

This program has to be one of the worst releases the BBC has made to date. The idea is good, but the implementation is so poor as to be almost diabolical.

With a theme of dogfights brought up to date, this could have been an exciting multi-faceted program which riveted its players to their seats.

The truth is that this is a race-type game (you know, the kind that scroll the road past your car and you have to avoid the obstacles) married to a shooting game (get-the-nasties-before-they-get-you type).

There are several levels, 24 to be precise, all of the same type but increasing in difficulty and including some very strange colour combinations too.

There are some extra features not seen in most race-type games, such as speed controls, but they aren't enough to give this game the little bit extra we find addictive.

Very disappointing, to say the least, and very expensive to make a mistake on. See this game before buying it.

instructions	80%
playability	10%
graphics	30%
value for money	20%



Overtaker/ Brands Hatch Jupiter Ace £5.95

Jupiter Cantab, Cheshunt Building, Bateman Street, Cambridge CB2 1LZ

Overtaker provides you with a large racing car on a straight track where, against a constantly decrementing clock, you seek to press on with piling up the points, which accrue only so long as you avoid a collision with an indeterminate number of smaller cars that keep coming up in your path.

If you do hit one, everything but the clock stops and you lose time. You can boost the speed as your skill increases and there's no fuzz on this road!

Brands Hatch provides an on-

screen replication of the famous circuit and a timer, but any resemblance to actual motor racing ends there. You control by means of two keys the direction of a fast moving pawn which rotates about its vertical axis in a most disconcerting way.

At various points on the track its progress is impeded by groups of parked fellow pawns, which never happens even at Monza!

But if you can forget about cars and treat the game as simply a difficult piece of manoeuvring, it becomes quite a challenge and is certainly fast enough — because it is Forth — for anyone.

instructions	70%
playability	65%
graphics	80%
value for money	70%



Hover Bover Commodore 64 plus Joystick £7.50

Llamasoft, 49 Mount Pleasant, Tadley, Hants

In this very original game, your task is to mow your lawn with a hover mower — while the owner tries to get it back.

The lawn has hedges and flower beds. The hedges form impenetrable barriers, and if you run over the flower beds, then someone else comes out to chase you.

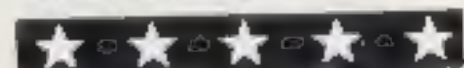
You do have a dog that can be ordered to chase after your pursuers, but it only has a certain amount of loyalty, and once this has been used up you have no defence against the people who are out to get you.

The mower will overload if you run over the dog, and the dog only has a certain amount of tolerance to the mower — once this has been exhausted it will try and run into the mower, thus immobilising you. The dog cannot run over the flower beds, so you can use them to hide from it.

Points are awarded for every piece of lawn that you mow, and bonus points are awarded for how much dog loyalty is left

after the job is done. Once you've finished one lawn, you move on to another with different hedges and flower beds.

instructions	70%
playability	100%
graphics	100%
value for money	85%



Light Cycle ORIC-1 £6.95

PSS, 452 Stoney Stanton Road, Coventry CV6 5DG

The object of this game is to ride your laser cycle around the game grid, leaving in your wake a solid laser wall.

Your opponent, human or computer, also leaves a similar wall, and if either of you hit any object on the grid then you "De-rez", giving a very spectacular display.

The whole program is very well presented, giving that all important arcade quality.

There is plenty of sound, impressive graphics, a hall of fame and, most usefully, an adjustable volume control. This last feature is one I hope to see on all new Oric games, especially in

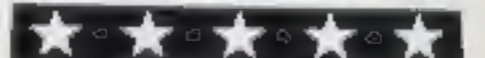
view of the Oric's rather loud sound!

Instructions are clear and concise, and the control keys (up, down, left, right and power boost) are well positioned for both players, or for player against computer.

The game itself has good graphics, and on the highest of its nine skill levels is very fast indeed. It is very addictive, and one of the few arcade action games that can be played by more than one person.

All in all, a game that offers very good, all round value for money.

instructions	75%
playability	80%
graphics	85%
value for money	85%



Will you do better than Guy?

Guy Fawkes failed to change history with gunpowder. Now's your chance to try with either model of the Spectrum. David Nowotnik explains the plot

If you have ever wanted to change history, here's your chance to try. While we're about to celebrate Guy Fawkes' abortive attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament, you could take the part of Guy in my game for the Spectrum.

It will work on both the 16K and 48K models and, if you do your work, you could convert Parliament into a pile of rubble.

When you have finished typing the program into your Spectrum, SAVE it on tape first.

The program contains a short machine code routine; although there is a check line to prevent the program running should you have made a mistake in entering the machine code numbers (line 5,000 onwards), there is always a chance that you could slip through this net even if you

have made a mistake.

When you RUN the program, the screen will stay blank for a few seconds while the variables and machine code are being set up. If you get a STOP message before anything appears on the screen, then check the machine code data lines.

If everything is OK, then a plan of the basement of the Houses of Parliament will be drawn on the screen. On the left is the lawn in front of the building, the entrance is the break in the blue wall, halfway down the screen.

You'll see that the basement is made up of lots of small rooms. Guy has hired the centre room on the far right of the screen. At the start of the game, this room has a red box in it, with the number zero in the box.

Guy is standing by his barrow

(the magenta rectangle) on the lawn just by the entrance to the building.

Your mission is to guide Guy through the corridors of the building to the room in which the bombs will be placed.

If you manage to get Guy to stand next to the red square in his room, then the number in the box increases by one to indicate that another bomb has been deposited.

Guy then has to go back to his barrow (and stand on the white square at the end of his barrow) to pick up another bomb. He has to try to get a total of 10 bombs to this room. If you succeed, then Parliament is destroyed.

You control Guy with the 5,6,7 and 8 keys, his movements being in the direction of the arrows on those keys.

Inside the building is a lone unsuspecting guard. As he patrols the basement area, he keeps a sharp look-out for any intruders. If you happen to wander into his sight, then he will command you to stop. If you are carrying a bomb, arrest is inevitable.

However, if there is no suspicious evidence on you, there is a chance that he will allow you to proceed. Be sure to get out of his sight quickly otherwise he may change his mind.

If he spots you a second time, there is no way that he will let you go. Of course, if he sees the bombs in Guy's room, Guy's plot is discovered and his arrest will follow.

You may change history on screen, but be sure to enjoy the celebration of history's real outcome on November 5th.

```
50 CLEAR 32599: RESTORE 1: POKE 23675,88:
POKE 23676,127
60 FOR i=0 TO 7
70 READ a: POKE USR "a"+i,a
80 NEXT i
90 DATA 24,24,60,90,90,90,24,24
100 PAPER 7: BORDER 7: INK 0: CLS
110 REM Guy's variables
120 LET y=9: LET x=2
130 LET ga=22810: LET dd=0: LET ba=1
140 LET sa=PEEK ga: LET bombs=0
150 REM Guard's variables
160 LET yq=10: LET xg=20
170 LET ag=22868: LET qd=32-64*(RND>.5)
180 DIM p(4)
190 FOR i=1 TO 4: READ p(i): NEXT i
200 DATA 1,-1,32,-32
210 REM Machine code
220 LET k=0
230 FOR j=0 TO 67
240 READ a: POKE USR "b"+j,a
250 LET v=k+a
260 NEXT j
270 IF k<>5584 THEN STOP
500 GO SUB 1000: PRINT AT 10,28: PAPER 2:
bombs
510 PRINT AT y,x: INK 1: ""
520 PRINT AT yq,xg: INK 3: ""
600 GO SUB 2000: IF ga=22875 AND ba=1 THEN
LET ba=0: LET bombs=bombs+1: PRINT A
T 10,28: PAPER 2: bombs
610 GO SUB 3000
620 GO SUB 3500
630 IF bombs<10 THEN GO TO 600
```

```
640 PRINT AT 21,4: "You've changed history!"
650 FOR i=1 TO 16
660 BORDER 2
670 BEEP .05,i
680 BORDER 7
690 BEEP .05,i+10
700 NEXT i
710 STOP
999 STOP
1000 REM Draw scene
1010 FOR i=1 TO 21: PRINT PAPER 4: " ";
NEXT i
1020 PAPER 1: LET z#=""
1030 PRINT AT 0,4:z#:AT 20,4:z#
1040 FOR i=1 TO 19: PRINT AT i,4: " ":AT i,
31: " "
1050 NEXT i
1060 LET z#=""
1070 FOR i=6 TO 26 STEP 5
1080 FOR j=2 TO 14 STEP 6
1090 PRINT AT j,i:z#
1100 NEXT j: NEXT i
1110 FOR i=6 TO 26 STEP 5
1120 FOR j=6 TO 18 STEP 6
1130 PRINT AT j,i:z#
1140 NEXT j: NEXT i
1150 FOR i=3 TO 15 STEP 6
1160 FOR j=6 TO 26 STEP 5
1170 FOR k=0 TO 3
1180 PRINT AT i+k,j: " "
1190 PRINT AT i+k,j+3: " "
1200 NEXT k: NEXT j: NEXT i
1210 PAPER 7
1220 FOR i=9 TO 19 STEP 10
```


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Movie Producer Dragon £7.95

Silly Software, 61 Thornhill Northwood, Epping, Essex

This must be the first computer game to come complete with 3D viewing specs.

Unfortunately the 3D effect is limited to the packaging and the game is in fact mostly text-based, 16-res graphics being used for the title page which is accompanied by a tuneful version of a very familiar melody.

As Peeko Snurberg (film entrepreneur), you must first find a hacket and then set the level of play by setting your budget and objectives.

Since you have up to \$50 million and 50 days to play with, a theoretical 25 billion levels of

play are claimed!

The game then follows conventional lines as you work your way through many locations which vary from the cutting room, to a jumbo jet in mid Atlantic. The commands are clumsy as they have to be in two letter form eg NO for north.

Every so often you will be hit by events good or bad, such as strikes or loss of finance.

No such random pattern is used to locate the film, though and once you have found its location there is little point in playing again except perhaps to win accreditation from the critics or achieve box office success. **PC**

instructions	80%
playability	60%
graphics	25%
value for money	40%



The Black Planet 48K Spectrum £5.95

Phipps Associates, 172 Kingston Rd, Ewell, Surrey KT19 0SD

This game is a combination of arcade and adventure. You must

travel round seven planets in the galaxy obtaining parts of a key that will enable you to destroy the Black Planet, home of space pirates who are disrupting your trade routes.

This space part of the adventure requires little skill in setting up target destinations but it is very difficult to hit pursuing ships or their energy weapons

Adventures for sale

Our reviewers fought monsters and travelled to strange locations to bring you the inside story on these games

— your shield strength suffers if you are hit.

On landing at a planet, a mini-adventure task is set, though they don't really make you think hard as suggested on the cassette insert. You will quickly remember what each planet offers and rather like the space fights, one or two are difficult as extremely quick reactions, or memory are needed.

Landing at starbase is a considerable taxing exercise and

it is a little difficult to understand the screen display relative to the instructions.

One side of the tape holds the game story and instructions, a hard task to remember. **PC**

instructions	85%
playability	80%
graphics	80%
value for money	80%



Horror Castle Dragon £6.90

A&F, 830 Hyde Rd, Manchester M18 7JD

A text-only adventure along classic lines. Your task is to rescue a princess from within a gloomy haunted castle with its many rooms, dungeons and moat.

As I confidently set off to achieve this aim I was soon frustrated by the list of many problems—I could not get past the gate.

After numerous attempts to pass this obstacle I decided I would have to cheat and examine the program.

The program is loaded as machine code but is in fact mostly written in BASIC and uses over 30K of memory.

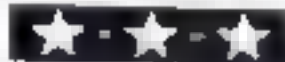
I was impressed by the use of

single letter entry for directions, eg N for North. This makes any game more enjoyable and faster to play. Response time was surprisingly quick and the program even calls you by name.

Yet again the reliable Dragon tape system had no problem loading even this size of program.

If you like text-only adventures, or have not yet tried one of these most frustrating games, then Horror Castle may be worth adding to your collection as it is easy to use but definitely not easy to crack. As I write I am still having difficulty making progress. **PC**

instructions	80%
playability	60%
graphics	70%
value for money	70%



Dr Who the First Adventure 32K BBC £10

British Broadcasting Corporation, 150 151 Marshfield, High Street, London W1M 4AA

Beware! This is not an adventure game as normally understood in computer circles.

The idea is a collection of episodes in a Dr Who adventure serial. There are four episodes complete in order to make six. The first three are best described as action spy games, the fourth as a thinking game.

The action games are a maze game called Labyrinth, a Copper lookalike called Prison and a Cavewoman shooting game called Terrordactyls.

Of these, my favourite was the shooting game, with birds that

have a nasty habit of being shot from the sky and the least attractive and poorest was the Prison game.

The final game is a 'black box' type where you are to describe as Battlecruiser in three dimensions. You can enter the box in order to visit the hidden areas.

Overall the games are fair value at 10 pence but you can get by making a spare time to complete the adventure and graduate to the Jane Lloyd Academy.

The theme is well handled and your personal enemy is a real one—you have to win the hunt in which to complete the game. **PC**

instructions	80%
playability	70%
graphics	60%
value for money	60%



Gorgon 48K Spectrum £4.95

Phipps Associates, 172 Kingston Rd, Ewell, Surrey, KT19 0SD

This program does not live up to other offerings from this company either in concept or implementation.

The game and instructions are separated. The instructions are

clear and like the game, loaded reliable. But the game itself is rather wooden, and lacks realism.

You must reclaim a chalice entrusted to you for safe keeping and stolen and protected by the dual evils Gorgon and Grang, (sounds like a music hall duo).

The first part of the task requires you to avoid the Gorgon's direct stare by looking a-her in your shield and deflecting her glance so that she herself

becomes the victim. Your shield may be angled in different directions. You have three lives.

Well that's loosely connected with ancient legend — except I always thought of Gorgon as a she, and here it is a he.

The Gorgon dodges round a rather crude temple 'set' and is not difficult to defeat. If you do not achieve your task you may die or your sillage may be flooded by the angry gods.

Defeat the guardian Gorgon

allows you entrance to the cave of Grang the evil swarman. **PC**

instructions	80%
playability	60%
graphics	30%
value for money	50%



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U.S. SCENE

My Rachel, 16 months, gets the bug

Computer Literacy Division, Human Interest Department. For the last several months our daughter Rachel has been fascinated with my computing system, especially with my printer. Whenever she would hear it going, she would run in and demand to be picked up to watch it printing. During one such session while I was holding her, I asked her if she could tell me the name of the computer.

Much to my amazement, she said "Apple!" in her little voice (I am sure she figured it out because of the logo, but it still came as a surprise.)

Now, if any of our friends care to learn the name of Rachel's favourite computer, they need only ask. Rachel was all of 16 months old at the time she figured this out. I am sure by the time she is two or three years old, she will be a better programmer than I am! After all, I never recognized a personal computer until I was almost 30!

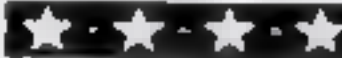


As long as I am in the human interest mode, here is a novel computer literacy marketing strategy. Post Cereals (a division of General Foods, a very large company indeed) in cooperation with Atari have agreed to promote computer literacy by running an advertisement campaign on the boxes of children's cereal.

The purpose of the campaign is to promote a 10-city tour of seminars put on by a non-profit organization called People's Computer Company. The tour is to take place during the next three months, starting in New York and heading west. At each venue, computing professionals will present 80 hours of free seminars, as well as giving out booklets and advice on computer basics. Approximately 50,000 students and adults are expected to attend these events which will be presented for 10 days in each of the 10 cities.

And now the answer you have undoubtedly been waiting for: Yes, you can send your box tops (or other proof of purchase) and receive "free" hardware and software from Atari. Although I do not know for sure, I would expect you would have to be a real cereal lover in order to get a free system.

All credit to Atari and General Foods marketers for this truly visible way of bringing computer literacy to the breakfast tables of America. Now, the question is, will it be swallowed?



Now here's something I know you've all been waiting for: Computer kitsch!

CompuGists, of Mission Viejo, California, has now introduced a line of terminal gadgets. Wouldn't you love to put a Computer Caddy on your desk to hold your pens, pencils, erasers, and paper clips? Aren't you just dying to repot your Begonia into a Computer Planter? These gadgets resemble various computers, are made of plastic (of course) and measure about four by six by four inches, and of course have a clear plastic screen on one side for storing a meaningful photo.

I am sorry that I cannot provide a better address, because I know they would be just deluged with orders from the U.K. As for me, I shall wait until they make available an Apple II ash tray (just kidding folks.)



The well known Japanese film company, Fuji Film, has just entered the floppy disc market here. They have been making discs in Japan since 1977. Just recently they have introduced a line of 8 inch discs (FD) and 5 25 inch discs (MD).

The firm guarantees them to be error-free, whatever that may mean, and apparently also indicates they they will still perform after 10 million passes. Anyone from Fuji care to come out to my house and count for me? Just what this country needs, one more floppy disc company.

That's all for this week. See you next time.

Bud Izen
Fairfield, California



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The best Spectrum spreadsheet you can buy. Written in machine code for faster response and more space to data and to allow more features to be included. It's guaranteed to last!

If more programs shared the quality of OMNICALC then we might see more Spectrum software. *Home Computing Weekly 3/5/83*

A nice idea for someone who has just found the spreadsheet concept but it's also a very powerful tool for anyone who has used one previously.

Shuttle 3500 complete with comprehensive manual £9.95

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TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

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A six-gun game for your Texas micro

You're on target for fun when you type in Tony Garner's Astro Gallery game for the standard TI-99/4A

You have six guns to fire at two targets which move at random round a galactic shooting gallery.

If you hit one, you score 100 points, but if you miss, you lose a number of points determined by the level of difficulty. This also decides how many shots you have to start off with, and how quickly you run out of time. You have one bonus shot as well as the ammunition shown at the bottom

right of the screen.

The level of difficulty also plays a part in your final score, along with number of points scored and how much ammunition was left unused.

The gallery beats you if you score more than 3010 penalty points, or if your penalty becomes higher than your score.

There's plenty to watch, and a dazzling reward for a good shot

How it works

- 100-120 clear screen, set high score and screen colour
- 130-150 set characters to blue
- 160-190 print title page and pause
- 200-230 difficulty level
- 240 keep T in range 1-10
- 250-310 preset variables
- 320-350 set characters to screen colour, to set up screen invisibly; clear screen
- 360 sets guns to screen colour
- 370-410 predefine characters
- 420 fills screen with background characters
- 430-490 base for guns; locate guns
- 500-520 top, sides of frame
- 530-640 set working colours to make everything appear
- 650-940 plot captions
- 950 escapes from caption plot routine
- 960-990 caption plot routine
- 1000 plots countdown indicator
- 1010-1020 record score and shots fired
- 1030-1060 initialise and plot target positions
- 1090-1120 save present target positions
- 1130 generates random number to move first target
- 1140-1190 record another turn in game sequence. If necessary, plot a countdown block and go to end of game routine, set counter back to 0
- 1200 noise for character movement
- 1210 determines the direction of the target
- 1220-1330 set the new target position
- plot the last position of the target as a space, keep the target's new coordinates in the frame
- 1340 branches to direct gunfire
- 1350-1370 if shots fired exceed ammunition, end game
- 1380-1530 repeat 1130 and 1200-1340 for second target
- 1540 if guns haven't been fired, don't plot shots/total
- 1550-1590 plot shots/total and reset flag
- 1600-1620 repeat 1350-1370
- 1630 return to start
- 1640-1660 looks for keypress; goes back to game-loop if no key pressed or wrong key pressed
- 1670 reduces K to range 1-6
- 1680 takes appropriate action on keypress
- 1690-1820 fire gun in correct column
- 1830 augments shot-counter
- 1840 sets flag to show shot fired
- 1850 branches to scoring routine if gun is fired in either target's column. Otherwise goes to penalty routine
- 1860 directs to scoring routine
- 1870 ends gunfire subroutine if points scored
- 1880 increases penalty points
- 1890 noise
- 1900-1930 prints new penalty score
- 1940 branches to end of game routine if penalty exceeds score or if penalty exceeds 3010 points
- 1950 ends gunfire subroutine if penalty points scored
- 1960 begins points scored routine by augmenting score
- 1970-2020 whizz and flash
- 2030-2060 print new score
- 2070 reset screen colour
- 2080 ends score routine
- 2090 begins end of game routine
- 2100-2110 pauses
- 2120 clear screen
- 2130-2150 sets printing characters to magenta
- 2160 totals score
- 2170-2180 convert negative scores to 0
- 2190-2200 set high score if necessary
- 2210-2270 print results and instructions
- 2280-2290 wait for keypress
- 2300-2310 reset penalty and countdown counters
- 2320 starts new game

- ### Variables
- HSC high score
 - T level of difficulty
 - A rate of scoring penalty points
 - B shots fired
 - G countdown rate
 - P position to plot countdown block
 - L ammunition at start
 - SC score
 - SFT character set
 - E,F coordinates to write captions
 - M5 caption
 - R,C first target coordinates
 - V,W stores for R,C
 - R2,C2 second target coordinates
 - V2,W2 stores for R2,C2
 - X random number to determine moves of targets
 - M flag to mark that a gun has been fired
 - S variable to detect a keypress
 - K ASCII value of key pressed
 - CO column in which gun is fired
 - L counter for penalty points

Hints on conversion
 Converting the program should be easy for most machines. Relevant commands are:

CALL CHAR (ASCII code number, hexadecimal string) defines characters used in the program. The hexadecimal string defines the pattern to be given to the character with the ASCII code stated.

CALL HCHAR (row number, column number, ASCII code, number of repetitions) places character with ASCII stated, at row and column specified, and optionally repeats it horizontally the number of times stated.

CALL VCHAR (row number, column number, ASCII codes, number of repetitions) works in the same way as **CALL HCHAR** only repeats vertically.

CALL CLEAR clears the screen.

CALL COLOUR (character set, foreground colour code, background colour code) specifies foreground and background colours for all characters in set specified.

CALL SCREEN (colour code) specifies screen colour using colour code.

CALL SOUND (duration, frequency, volume) produces sound. Duration in milliseconds, frequency in Hertz (or noise code), and volume in scale from 0 loudest to 30 quietest.

CALL KEY (key wait, k,s) equivalent of **INKEYS**, returns code of key pressed in variable k.

```

100 CALL CLEAR
110 H=0
120 CALL SCREEN 10
130 FOR ET=1 TO 10
140 CALL COLOR ET,0,1
150 NE T ET
160 PRINT THE 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
170 PRINT THE 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
180 PRINT THE 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
190 PRINT THE 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
200 B=0
210 ES=0
220 G=10
230 A=0
240 DE=10
250 T=1000
260 FOR ET=1 TO 10
270 CALL COLOR ET,0,1
280 CALL CLEAR
290 CALL COLOR 0,1,1
300 CALL CHAR 40,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1
310 T=1000
320 FOR ET=1 TO 10
330 CALL COLOR ET,0,1
340 NE T ET
350 CALL CLEAR
360 CALL COLOR 0,1,1
370 CALL CHAR 40,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1
10
    
```

TI-99/4A PROGRAM

```

380 CALL CHAR(128,"FFFFFFFFFFFF
FFF")
390 CALL CHAR(136,"0040000090000
080")
400 CALL CHAR(144,"3C7E010F42358
118")
410 CALL CHAR(152,"FFFFFFFFFFFF
FFF")
390 CALL CHAR(136,"0040000090000
080")
400 CALL CHAR(144,"3C7E010F42358
118")
410 CALL CHAR(152,"FFFFFFFFFFFF
FFF")
420 CALL HCHAR(1,1,136,(24*32)
430 CALL HCHAR(23,1,128,14)
440 CALL HCHAR(22,7,128,14)
450 FOR J=11 TO 20 STEP 3
460 CALL HCHAR(1,J,73)
470 NEXT J
480 CALL HCHAR(21,7,73)
490 CALL HCHAR(21,25,73)
500 CALL HCHAR(1,1,128,14)
510 CALL VCHAR(1,1,128,14)
520 CALL VCHAR(1,30,128,14)
530 CALL COLOR(2,16,2)
540 CALL COLOR(3,2,16)
550 CALL COLOR(4,2,16)
560 CALL COLOR(5,16,2)
570 CALL COLOR(6,16,2)
580 CALL COLOR(7,16,2)
590 CALL COLOR(8,16,2)
600 CALL COLOR(13,15,1)
610 CALL COLOR(14,2,2)
620 CALL COLOR(15,12,1)
630 CALL COLOR(16,7,1)
640 CALL SCREEN(6)
650 M$="ASTRO-GALLERY"
660 E=23
670 F=9
680 GOSUB 960
690 M$="****POINTS****"
700 E=1
710 F=8
720 GOSUB 960
730 M$="PLUS"
740 E=1
750 F=3
760 GOSUB 960
770 M$="MINUS"
780 E=1
790 F=24
800 GOSUB 960
810 M$="SHOT"
820 E=3
830 F=12
840 GOSUB 960
850 M$="TRIP"
860 M$="H"
870 E=24
880 F=1
890 GOSUB 960
900 L$="TRIP"
910 M$="AMMO"
920 E=24
930 F=24
940 GOSUB 960
950 GOTO 1000
960 FOR J=1 TO LEN M$
970 CALL HCHAR(E,F+J,ASC(SEG$(M$
,J,1))
980 NEXT J
990 RETURN
1000 CALL VCHAR(13,31,79,10)

```

```

1010 GOTO 2000
1020 GOTO 14
1030 P=12
1040 R=12
1150 IF N<6 THEN 1200
1160 P=P-1
1170 CALL HCHAR(P,31,152)
1180 IF P=13 THEN 1610
1190 N=0
1200 CALL SOUND(-100,110,3,1047,
3,1760,3)
1210 ON A GOTO 1220,1240,1260,12
80
1220 P=P+1
1230 GOTO 1290
1240 R=R-1
1250 GOTO 1290
1260 C=C+1
1270 GOTO 1290
1280 C=C-1
1290 CALL HCHAR(10,136)
1300 IF R/5 THEN 1220
1310 IF P=20 THEN 1240
1320 IF C=29 THEN 1660
1330 IF C=4 THEN 1660
1340 GOSUB 1640
1350 IF B/U THEN 1360 ELSE 1370
1360 E$="GAME OVER - GAME OVER!"
1370 GOTO 2100
1380 =INT PND/4 +1
1390 CALL SOUND(-100,554,3,1047,
3,1760,3)
1400 ON 1 GOTO 141,144,145,14
7
1410 R=R+1
1420 GOTO 1470
1430 R=R-1
1440 GOTO 1470
1450 C=C+1
1460 GOTO 1470
1470 C=C-1
1480 CALL HCHAR(2,16,2)
1490 IF R=5 THEN 1410
1500 IF R=20 THEN 1430
1510 IF C=29 THEN 1470
1520 IF C=4 THEN 1450
1530 GOSUB 1640
1540 IF M<1 THEN 1600
1550 B$=STR$(B)
1560 FOR J=1 TO LEN(B$)
1570 CALL HCHAR(3,20+J,ASC(SEG$(
B$,J,1)))
1580 NEXT J
1590 M=0
1600 IF B>U THEN 1610 ELSE 1630
1610 E$="GAME OVER - GAME OVER!"
1620 GOTO 2100
1630 GOTO 1
1640 CALL HCHAR(1,E,M)
1650 IF M=1 THEN 1950
1660 IF (E=44 + (E=54) THEN 1950
1670 F=F-4
1680 ON 1 GOTO 1690,1710,1700,17
50,1701,1711
1690 C=C
1700 GOTO 1
1710 C=11
1720 GOTO 1
1730 C=14
1740 GOTO 1
1750 GOTO 1
1760 GOTO 1
1770 GOTO 1
1780 GOTO 1
1790 GOTO 1
1800 GOTO 1

```

```

1810 CALL VCHAR(1,0,4,14)
1820 CALL VCHAR(1,1,14,14)
1830 E=E+1
1840 M=1
1850 IF (E=4 + (E=5) THEN 1860
ELSE 1880
1860 GOSUB 1760
1870 RETURN
1880 L=L+M
1890 CALL SOUND(-250,110,0)
1900 M$=STR$(L)
1910 FOR J=1 TO LEN(M$)
1920 CALL HCHAR(3,26+J,ASC(SEG$(
M$,J,1)))
1930 NEXT J
1940 IF (L=100 + (L=3010) THEN 21
00
1950 RETURN
1960 SC=SC+100
1970 CALL SOUND(-500,523,0,659,0,
784,0)
1980 CALL COLOR(14,7,7)
1990 CALL SCREEN(7)
2000 CALL COLOR(14,12,13)
2010 CALL COLOR(14,7,12)
2020 CALL SCREEN(6)
2030 M$=STR$(SC)
2040 FOR J=1 TO LEN(M$)
2050 CALL HCHAR(3,30+J,ASC(SEG$(
M$,J,1)))
2060 NEXT J
2070 CALL COLOR(14,2,2)
2080 RETURN
2090 E$="THE GALLERY HAS BENTEN
ED!"
2100 FOR DELAY=1 TO 150
2110 NEXT DELAY
2120 CALL CLEAR
2130 FOR SET=1 TO 9
2140 CALL COLOR(SET,14,15)
2150 NEXT SET
2160 IF SC=0 THEN 2180 ELSE 2170
2170 C=C
2180 IF C=ASC THEN 2200 ELSE 22
10
2200 M=C=0
2210 CALL SCREEN(15)
2220 PRINT E$:::
2230 PRINT "YOUR FINAL SCORE IS
ADJUSTED FOR DIFFICULTY: 100*
:::
2240 PRINT "C:::
2250 PRINT "BEST SCORE SO FAR:::
:::
2260 PRINT M$:::
2270 PRINT "PRESS ANY KEY TO PL
AY AGAIN"
2280 CALL KEY(C,K,S)
2290 IF C=0 THEN 2280
2300 L=0
2310 N=0
2320 GOTO 200

```

Toolbox 32K BBC £21

Brimley, Brackley, Clifton
100, 55 Marlborough High Street
London W1M 4AA

The Toolbox of routines is a practical and well thought out package that can be used with any BBC system.

The routines are available in 32K and 64K versions. The routines are suitable for both cassette and disc use with a BBC BASIC interpreter. The routines are available on cassette tape for £21 and on disc for £25.

The routines are available on cassette tape for £21 and on disc for £25. The routines are available on cassette tape for £21 and on disc for £25.

run faster and take up less space. It packs your lines with as many statements as possible. Unfortunately, this makes the programs very difficult indeed to debug.

This trio of routines makes life a doddle! All you do is write your program, test it, get it right and then after testing use the program to generate all the routines. The routines remove unwanted lines and the third packs the statements on to as few lines as possible.

There are many other equally good and useful routines including some graphics dump, disassembler and RAM tester. In fact, value for money is a very high one.

price	£21.00
ease of use	95%
display	90%
value for money	100%



Help yourself with these

These programs are claimed to make the programmer's life easier — but do they really? See what our reviewers thought

The volume of the recorded output must be exactly right and the accents removed need to be manually sorted. Perhaps some more manual editing would have been useful.

The editor contained no more than a few simple commands and some more sophisticated features like GOTO and GOTOV were not available.

While that was not too bad

in practice there was a definite problem over the editor routine used to set a few words. After a few minutes it was necessary to re-edit the editor. As a guess, the RANDBEST USER EDIT was tried and it worked.

price	£10.00
ease of use	75%
display	80%
value for money	80%



Super Talk 48K Spectrum £5.95

Abey, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

The program is a simple one that allows you to set up words of your own using a sound tape of the words. The process is very straightforward.

Spectrum speaks recognisable words.

It will read out numbers presented in a format, call red a certain color, response to data produced by a BASIC program.

The second side of the tape allows you to set up words of your own using a sound tape of the words. The process is very straightforward.

The Key Spectrum £5

Keysoft, 6 Bruce Grove, Tottenham, London N15 8RA

The program is a simple one that allows you to set up words of your own using a sound tape of the words. The process is very straightforward.

There are a few small features when you will want a backup copy of your favorite programs and The Key will give you its help in any way.

When you don't know what a program is you will always be a programmer's ally. Although here are a few small features that are not too important to mention.

The program is a simple one that allows you to set up words of your own using a sound tape of the words. The process is very straightforward.

The program is a simple one that allows you to set up words of your own using a sound tape of the words. The process is very straightforward.

price	£5.00
ease of use	90%
display	90%
value for money	90%



Spectrum Kopykat Spectrum £4.95

Miles, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

The program is a simple one that allows you to set up words of your own using a sound tape of the words. The process is very straightforward.

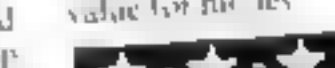
My only problem was that the instructions for using the program of this type had been a bit out of date. I made it usable without too much trouble.

The program is a simple one that allows you to set up words of your own using a sound tape of the words. The process is very straightforward.

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There are a few small features when you will want a backup copy of your favorite programs and The Key will give you its help in any way.

price	£4.95
ease of use	80%
display	80%
value for money	80%



Mikro 64 Commodore 64 £50

Supersoft, Wetherby, Harrogate, Carrington Road, Wetherby, Harrogate

The program is a simple one that allows you to set up words of your own using a sound tape of the words. The process is very straightforward.

The program is a simple one that allows you to set up words of your own using a sound tape of the words. The process is very straightforward.

The program is a simple one that allows you to set up words of your own using a sound tape of the words. The process is very straightforward.

The actual assembler uses standard mnemonics to the source code. The BASIC editor is used to create the source code and format saving a load file is used to handle it.

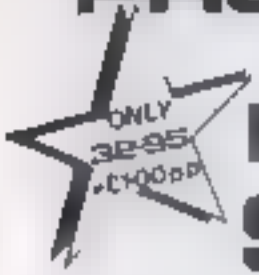
The assembly process uses three passes and consequently allows you to use labels and incorporate simple arithmetic in the source code. The code is then stored in RAM rather than on tape or disk. A strip singly handles it.

The actual pseudocode (W, R, L, D, BYT and TXT) are available as are commands for listing, disassembling code and generating a label table.

price	£50.00
ease of use	85%
display	85%
value for money	100%

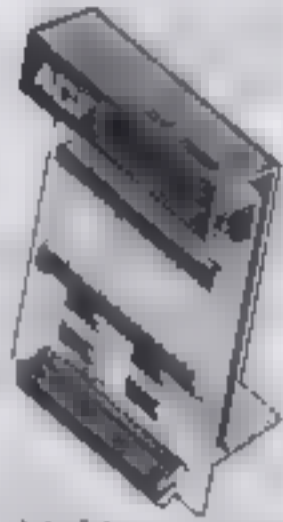


PROGRAMMABLE JOYSTICK INTERFACE for Spectrum or ZX81



PROGRAMMABLE JOYSTICK

AGF's Programmable Joystick Interface is a unique device which allows you to program your joystick to perform a wide range of functions. It is compatible with the Spectrum and ZX81 computers and can be used to control a wide range of games and applications. The interface is easy to use and can be programmed using a simple menu system. It is a must-have for any Spectrum or ZX81 user who wants to get the most out of their joystick.



PACKAGE CONTENTS SUPPLIED

- 1 Programmable Joystick Interface
- 1 User Manual
- 1 Programming Card
- 1 Joystick
- 1 Joystick Controller

JOYSTICKS

AGF's Joysticks are available in a range of models to suit your needs. They are compatible with the Programmable Joystick Interface and can be used to control a wide range of games and applications. The joysticks are easy to use and can be programmed using a simple menu system. They are a must-have for any Spectrum or ZX81 user who wants to get the most out of their joystick.

PLEASE ALLOW 3 DAYS FOR DELIVERY

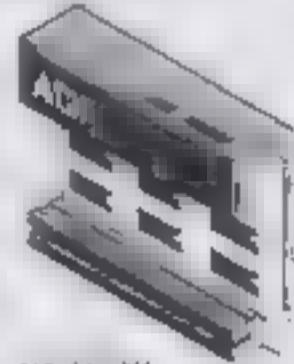
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JOYSTICK INTERFACE II for Spectrum or ZX81

NEW PRICE



JOYSTICK INTERFACE II

AGF's Joystick Interface II is a unique device which allows you to program your joystick to perform a wide range of functions. It is compatible with the Spectrum and ZX81 computers and can be used to control a wide range of games and applications. The interface is easy to use and can be programmed using a simple menu system. It is a must-have for any Spectrum or ZX81 user who wants to get the most out of their joystick.

KEY FEATURES

- Programmable joystick simulation for a wide range of games
- High resolution joystick for accurate control
- High speed joystick for fast response
- High resolution joystick for accurate control

PLEASE ALLOW 3 DAYS FOR DELIVERY

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Park your spaceship — then run for your money

My two-in-one Parker game makes the most of the VIC's high-res graphics, sound and colour. To play it, you'll need the Super Expander and a joystick.

In the first part of the program, your task is to land your spaceship on a landing site — the points you win for this depend on the position of the site.

Once you have managed to do this 15 times, on you go to the next part.

In this, you find yourself in a maze, and you must run around collecting money bags. This part won't get any easier the more you play, because the maze is different each time.

And once you've picked up all the money bags, you start again at the beginning of part 1 — but now the game is faster.

If you can win a high enough score, you'll get your name in the Hall of Fame.

The program itself has to be entered in two parts, too. Program 1 defines the hi-res graphics and gives instructions. Program 2 is the actual game.

When Program 1 is run, it will give you instructions, then ask you to load Program 2.

Central TV's Saturday Show made this game a runner-up in a computer competition. Now you can try Giovanni Quaglia's two-part Parker for the VIC-20 with Super Expander and joystick



How it works:

- 1-8 clear screen and set landing site variables
- 199-200 set other variables, set screen colour and hi-res
- 300-530 print screen
- 700-1000 how many ships landed and how many left
- 1020-1027 see if you have crashed
- 1030-1040 see if you have landed
- 1100-1200 joystick input
- 2000-3040 end game routine
- 2100-2130 crash routine
- 2200-2410 change score
- 4000-4630 draw maze
- 4640-4670 joystick input
- 4700-4730 new player position, check to see if landed on a tip
- 5000 check to see if all tips picked up
- 5010-5060 move robot

Note: The reversed symbols on lines 2120, 2470 and 4700 is to enter the Super Expander into music mode, and is obtained by pressing CTRL and left arrow. Line 480 is too long to be typed in longhand, so use the short hand for PRINT.

→ First type in PARKER 1, run it to check for errors, then save it. Type NEW, then type in PARKER 2. Run it to check for errors, then save it on the same side of the cassette.

```

27 DATA 0-0-0-0-0-0
28 DATA 1-7-7-15-250-250-63
29 DATA250-250-83-81-13-7-3
30 DATA250-250-252-248-244-224-192-178
31 DATA250-250-250-250-250-250-250-250
32 DATA250-250-250-250-250-250-250-250
33 DATA250-250-24-36-60-26-66-190
34 DATA60-73-89-200-60-36-23
35 DATA0-0-24-24-0-0-0
36 DATA0-29-34-34-60-0-0
37 DATA6-37-60-60-66-52-42-73
38 DATA45-60-58-4-229-36-74-137
39 DATA26-182-1-0-1-0-98-26-60
40 DATA26-98-22-98-118-98-60
41 DATA26-98-22-114-122-98-60
42 DATA26-186-86-98-122-22-60
43 DATA26-98-118-98-122-98-60
44 DATA26-1-0-1-0-98-106-86-60
45 DATA26-98-122-22-122-22-60
46 DATA26-98-106-98-106-98-60
47 DATA26-98-106-98-122-98-60
48 DATA254-138-20-138-194-194-254
49 DATA4-4-4-2-3-3-12
50 DATA254-138-2-254-92-92-194-254
51 DATA254-138-2-82-2-194-194-254
52 DATA28-126-36-254-8-24-24-24
53 DATA254-138-126-254-7-94-94-254
54 DATA254-138-29-254-194-94-94-254
55 DATA254-138-2-2-6-6-6-6
56 DATA254-138-36-254-194-194-94-254
57 DATA254-138-36-254-2-6-6-6
58 DATA250-170-43-170-241-251-241-250
59 DATA250-250-92-250-250-90-250-250
60 DATA250-95-242-95-251-195-250-250-990
61 POKER: 0 POKER5: 0 POKER12: 20 POKER54: 20 R=7300
62 POKER: 3 POKER: 10 POKER: 10 POKER: 10
90 IF NOT (R=7036AND C=3335) THEN PRINT "DATA ERROR" STOP
100 COL=0: 4: 1: 1
110 PRINT
120 PRINT "PARKER"
130 PRINT "PARKER"
140 PRINT "PARKER"
150 PRINT "PARKER"
160 PRINT "PARKER"
170 PRINT "PARKER"
180 PRINT "PARKER"
190 PRINT "PARKER"
200 PRINT "PARKER"
210 PRINT "PARKER"
220 PRINT "PARKER"
  
```

Variables

- S1%, S2% etc landing site positions
- C position of ship
- T time delay
- M, M's sound
- G number of ships parked

```

PARKER 1
1000 PRINT "PARKER 1"
1100 PRINT "PARKER 1"
1200 PRINT "PARKER 1"
1300 PRINT "PARKER 1"
1400 PRINT "PARKER 1"
1500 PRINT "PARKER 1"
1600 PRINT "PARKER 1"
1700 PRINT "PARKER 1"
1800 PRINT "PARKER 1"
1900 PRINT "PARKER 1"
2000 PRINT "PARKER 1"
2100 PRINT "PARKER 1"
2200 PRINT "PARKER 1"
2300 PRINT "PARKER 1"
2400 PRINT "PARKER 1"
2500 PRINT "PARKER 1"
2600 PRINT "PARKER 1"
2700 PRINT "PARKER 1"
2800 PRINT "PARKER 1"
2900 PRINT "PARKER 1"
3000 PRINT "PARKER 1"
3100 PRINT "PARKER 1"
3200 PRINT "PARKER 1"
3300 PRINT "PARKER 1"
3400 PRINT "PARKER 1"
3500 PRINT "PARKER 1"
3600 PRINT "PARKER 1"
3700 PRINT "PARKER 1"
3800 PRINT "PARKER 1"
3900 PRINT "PARKER 1"
4000 PRINT "PARKER 1"
4100 PRINT "PARKER 1"
4200 PRINT "PARKER 1"
4300 PRINT "PARKER 1"
4400 PRINT "PARKER 1"
4500 PRINT "PARKER 1"
4600 PRINT "PARKER 1"
4700 PRINT "PARKER 1"
4800 PRINT "PARKER 1"
4900 PRINT "PARKER 1"
5000 PRINT "PARKER 1"
5100 PRINT "PARKER 1"
5200 PRINT "PARKER 1"
5300 PRINT "PARKER 1"
5400 PRINT "PARKER 1"
5500 PRINT "PARKER 1"
5600 PRINT "PARKER 1"
5700 PRINT "PARKER 1"
5800 PRINT "PARKER 1"
5900 PRINT "PARKER 1"
6000 PRINT "PARKER 1"
6100 PRINT "PARKER 1"
6200 PRINT "PARKER 1"
6300 PRINT "PARKER 1"
6400 PRINT "PARKER 1"
6500 PRINT "PARKER 1"
6600 PRINT "PARKER 1"
6700 PRINT "PARKER 1"
6800 PRINT "PARKER 1"
6900 PRINT "PARKER 1"
7000 PRINT "PARKER 1"
7100 PRINT "PARKER 1"
7200 PRINT "PARKER 1"
7300 PRINT "PARKER 1"
7400 PRINT "PARKER 1"
7500 PRINT "PARKER 1"
7600 PRINT "PARKER 1"
7700 PRINT "PARKER 1"
7800 PRINT "PARKER 1"
7900 PRINT "PARKER 1"
8000 PRINT "PARKER 1"
8100 PRINT "PARKER 1"
8200 PRINT "PARKER 1"
8300 PRINT "PARKER 1"
8400 PRINT "PARKER 1"
8500 PRINT "PARKER 1"
8600 PRINT "PARKER 1"
8700 PRINT "PARKER 1"
8800 PRINT "PARKER 1"
8900 PRINT "PARKER 1"
9000 PRINT "PARKER 1"
9100 PRINT "PARKER 1"
9200 PRINT "PARKER 1"
9300 PRINT "PARKER 1"
9400 PRINT "PARKER 1"
9500 PRINT "PARKER 1"
9600 PRINT "PARKER 1"
9700 PRINT "PARKER 1"
9800 PRINT "PARKER 1"
9900 PRINT "PARKER 1"
  
```

VIC-20 PROGRAM

```

1148 IFRJ=5THEND=23 MS=2 IFFEEK(C-1)O27THEND=1
1158 IFRJ=6THEND=21 MS=2 IFFEEK(C+2)O27THENDPEEK(C-1)O27THEND=22
1168 IFRJ=9THEND=21 MS=2 IFFEEK(C-1)O27THEND=1
1178 IFRJ=10THEND=23 MS=2 IFFEEK(C+2)O27THENDPEEK(C-1)O27THEND=22
1188 IFRJ=12THEND=8 MS=8
1200 GOTO1000
2000 POKEJ6869 248 POKEJ6879 8 PRINT"YOU GOT A SCORE OF".SCS SC=VAL(SCS)
2005 K=8 FORI=109 IFC=VAL(LEFT$(B$(I 6))THEND=1 I=9
2010 NEXT IFRJ=9THENDFORA=102000 NEXT GOTO2035
2015 PRINT"YOU GOT ONE OF THE TOP FIVE SCORES"
2020 PRINT"ENTER YOUR INITIALS + INPUTS IFL=I(9)O27THEND=20
2025 FORI=40KSTEP=1 30(I+1)=B$(I) NEXT B$(I)=SCS* "I=9
2035 PRINT"CONGRAT BY G.S.GURGLIA HALL OF FAME" FORI=105 PRINT"*****" I=9
NT
2037 PRINT"PRESS FIRE BUTTON FOR ANOTHER GO" G=100 TP=4 LV=0
2038 IFRJOY(8)C)120THEND=2038
2040 SCS="00000" SC=0 GOTO199
2100 FORI=104 POKEC I-34 SOJ008.8.8.148.15-142
2110 FORA=10100 NEXTA I SOUNDB.8.8.8.8 POKEC 27 D=8 C=7734 H=192
2115 IFLV=3THEND=202000
2120 PRINT"0152BEFOCC" IFTL=1THEND=4000
2130 GOTO900
2200 FK=SC
2220 FORI=8TOS IFC=SIX(I)THENDSC=SC+28
2230 NEXT FORI=8TOS IFC=SEVEN(I)THENDSC=SC+38
2240 NEXT FORI=8TOS IFC=SEVEN(I)THENDSC=SC+48
2250 NEXT FORI=8TOS IFC=SEVEN(I)THENDSC=SC+58
2260 NEXT FORI=8TOS IFC=SEVEN(I)THENDSC=SC+68
2270 NEXT FORI=8TOS IFC=SEVEN(I)THENDSC=SC+78
2280 NEXT FORI=8TOS IFC=SEVEN(I)THENDSC=SC+88
2290 NEXT FORI=8TOS IFC=SEVEN(I)THENDSC=SC+98
2300 NEXT IFFX=SCTHENDSC=SC+18
2320 NEXT IFFX=SCTHENDSC=SC+18
2400 PRINT"0030CDEF00CC"
2405 AS=STR$(SC A=LEN(A$) AS=RIGHT$(A$ A-1) B=7-A B=LEFT$(SCS B) SC=SC+B
2406 IFL=1THENDPRINT"*****" SC C=7734 H=192 MS=8 GOTO900
2410 PRINT"*****" SC C=7734 H=192 MS=8 DEFF$(X)=TP=V444+M2 ZL=1
4000 P=RNDC() SP=27 SS=27 SC=31 TP=7600 DEFF$(X)=TP=V444+M2 ZL=1
4010 B1=27 B2=27 MS=128 MS=9 MS=10
4200 PRINT"*****" FORI=8TOS I=9
4210 PRINTLEFT$(C *****" + 2000+3) NEXT
4215 FORA=7600T0770 POKER 32 POKER+2 6 POKER+484 32 POKER+2+484 6 NEXT
    
```

```

4216 FORA=7720T08163STEP22 POKER 32 POKER+Z 6 NEXT
4220 PRINT"*****" I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4230 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4240 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4250 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4260 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4270 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4280 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4290 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4300 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4310 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4320 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4330 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4340 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4350 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4360 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4370 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4380 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4390 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4400 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4410 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4420 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4430 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4440 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4450 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4460 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4470 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4480 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4490 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4500 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4510 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4520 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4530 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4540 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4550 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4560 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4570 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4580 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4590 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4600 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4610 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4620 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4630 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4640 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4650 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4660 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4670 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4680 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4690 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4700 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4710 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4720 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4730 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4740 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4750 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4760 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4770 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4780 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4790 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4800 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4810 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4820 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4830 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4840 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4850 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4860 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4870 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4880 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4890 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4900 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4910 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4920 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4930 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4940 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4950 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4960 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4970 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4980 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
4990 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
5000 I=9 V=INT(STRND(1))
    
```

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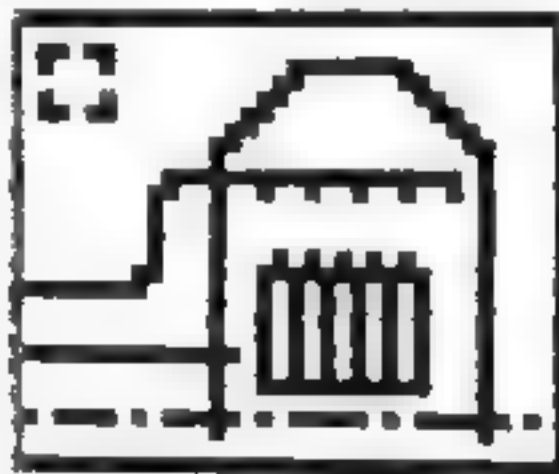
Play, draw and calculate: five 1K programs for your ZX81

Doodle Pad

SLOW and RLN 10 to obtain flashing cursor. This is placed at the bottom right hand corner of the available screen area. Use keys 1-8 to draw lines. Use PLOT and UNPLOT (keys Q and W) to change mode between "draw" and "erase". Press key "Z" (COPY) to dump a copy of the printer. To SAVE program with doodle intact, press key "S", type program name, switch in recorder, then press NEW LINE.

```

1 PLOT X Y
2 RETURN
10 LET X=CODE "7"
20 LET Y=CODE "7"
30 PLOT X,Y
40 UNPLOT X,Y
50 LET Z=CODE INKEY$-CODE "0"
60 IF Z=-CODE "0" THEN GOTO C)
DE "2"
70 GOSUB CODE ""
75 IF Z=CODE "0" THEN INPUT X)
78 IF Z=CODE "0" THEN SAVE X$
80 GOSUB VAL "Z+100"
99 GOTO CODE "2"
800 LET X=VAL "X+(X(35)*(Z=2 OR
Z=3 OR Z=8)-(X>0)+(Z=1 OR Z=4 O
R Z=5)"
810 LET Y=VAL "Y+(Y(43)*(Z=1 OR
Z=2 OR Z=7)-(Y>15)+(Z=3 OR Z=4
OR Z=5)"
2599 RETURN
3200 IF INKEY$>" THEN GOTO VAL
"3200"
3210 LET Z=VAL "PEEK 16513"
3220 POKE VAL "16513",VAL "PEEK
16513+5*((Z=246)-(Z=252))"
3499 RETURN
3500 COPY
3969 RETURN
    
```



Listing for Doodle Pad — with a sample drawn by Nick

Day of the Week

What day of the week will April 11, 2011 fall on? This program can tell you (wow!) Operates according to current calendar rules; dates before about the 15th century will not be correct.

```

20 PRINT INPUT D (OF MTH)
40 INPUT D
50 PRINT D," INPUT M"," "
60 INPUT M
70 PRINT M," INPUT Y"," "
75 INPUT Y
80 PRINT Y
90 LET R=VAL "365*Y+INT ((Y-1
/4)-INT ((Y-1)/100)+INT ((Y-1)/
80)-INT ((Y-1)/4E4)"
100 LET M$="303232332323"
110 IF NOT VAL "Y-INT (Y/4)+4"
    
```

ZX81 expert Nick Godwin presents five programs which fit into the ZX81's standard 1K memory. Type them in for fun as well as more serious uses

```

AND VAL "Y-INT (Y/100)+100" OR 1
OT VAL "Y-INT (Y/400)+400" AND 1
AL "Y-INT (Y/4E4)+4E4" THEN LET
4$ (VAL "3")="1"
120 FOR I=VAL "1" TO M
130 LET R=R+CODE M$(I)
140 NEXT I
150 LET R=R/D
320 LET U=VAL "R-INT (R/7)+7"
330 PRINT "SAT SUN MON TUE WED
OTHU FRI" (VAL "4#3+1" TO VAL "4#3
+3")
    
```

```

INPUT D (OF MTH) 15
INPUT M          5
INPUT Y          1983
    
```

WED

```

INPUT D (OF MTH) 11
INPUT M          11
INPUT Y          1945
    
```

SUN

```

INPUT D (OF MTH) 1
INPUT M          2
INPUT Y          1971
    
```

MON

Listing for Days of the Week with sample outputs below

Primes

RUN and enter any number above 1, the program will inform you whether or not it is a prime number. Takes a while for some long numbers.

```

10 INPUT N
20 IF N<VAL "2" OR N<>INT N TH
EN RUN
23 IF PEEK VAL "16442"<VAL "3
THEN SCROLL
25 PRINT N;" IS "
30 IF N>VAL "2" AND N=VAL "2*7
NT (N/2)" OR N>CODE "3" AND N=VA
"5+INT (N/5)" THEN GOTO VAL "3"
40 FOR J=VAL "3" TO 50R N STEP
VAL "2"
50 IF N/J=INT VAL "N/J" THEN G
OTO VAL "90"
60 NEXT J
70 PRINT "PRIME."
80 RUN
90 PRINT "NOT "
100 GOTO VAL "70"
    
```

```

991 IS PRIME.
9991 IS NOT PRIME.
99991 IS PRIME.
    
```


Free yourself from the Handbook



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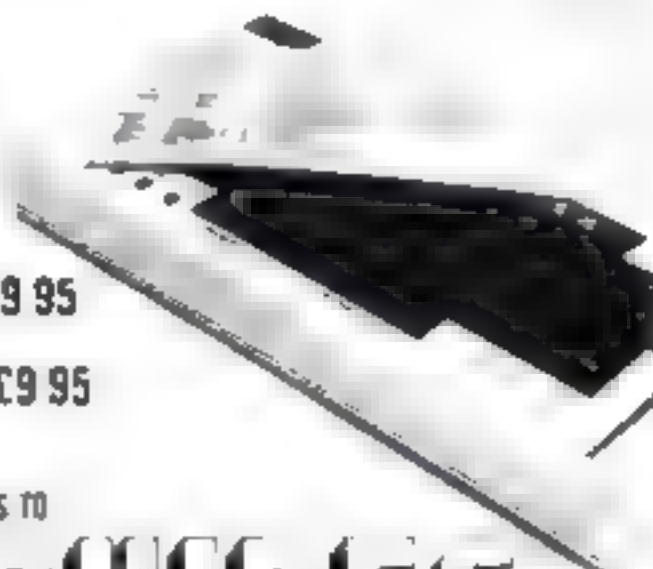
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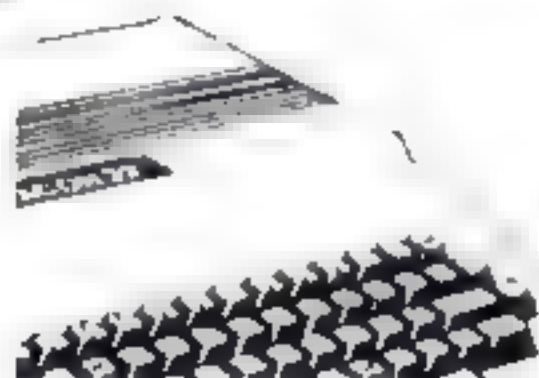
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This demo-cassette is available at £2.00, and *THE QUILL* itself is £14.95.

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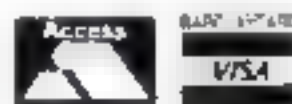
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Have a field day with these games

Our reviewers rate some games set in the wide open spaces

Fish and Flutterer Jupiter Ace £8.95

Jupiter Cantab, Cheshunt Building, Bateman Street, Cambridge CB2 1LZ

Arcade games are divided into those in which something is eaten and those in which something is

zapped. Here is one of each. In the first, a rather sad looking fish floats in the centre of the screen and ingests as much of the detritus moving across from the right as can be manoeuvred into his mouth by the use of vertical key movements.

At the same time, however, the player has to keep his scaly pal moving forward or he will be swept off screen left, together with the uneaten food, and the game will end.

Viper 32K BBC £8.95

R. H. Electronics, Chesterton Mill, French's Road, Cambridge CB4 3NP

It's hard to believe that this program has ever been released as a commercial cassette. I would even have been upset if I had spent time keying it in from a magazine.

How anyone has the audacity to charge nearly £9 for this program is beyond belief. In short, I don't like it (you'd guessed?) and it hasn't any redeeming features that I can find.

The aim of the game is to guide a snake around a box without touching the sides or the snake itself, and to eat as much as possible of the food on offer.

The snake is just a string of Teletext graphic characters which do nothing to enhance its

credibility, and the food is simply a number of hash signs scattered around.

The makers seem to believe that "difficult is exciting" which I don't find to be the case.

To get on to the high scores you have to devour 100 pieces of food with a snake moving in a manner reminiscent of a burst balloon.

There isn't even a sense of achievement as you eat the food, because each piece is replaced by another — which means you never complete the screen.

The best part of this game is without doubt the instructions.

instructions	50%
playability	0%
graphics	10%
value for money	0%



Splodge TI-99/4A £5

By Haydonsoft, from Starless Software, 10 Alstone Road, Stockport

A game supposedly like Frogger which I found slow, difficult and in the final analysis, rather boring.

The aim is to guide an odd looking little character, using the E, S, D and X keys, through a screenful of continually moving objects.

The obstacle course is divided into two halves, in the upper of which you are forced to move diagonally, i.e. up and to the right.

The two sections are separated by a 'bare area' containing moving currents which sweep you along, adding to the difficulty when choosing the moment to move.

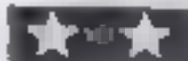
The instructions are sparse but sufficient, although the purpose in displaying a High Score Table on the screen defeats me.

Each completed traverse — you're expected to trundle back and forth — gains you between 50 and 90 points, and the table goes up to 300 points.

Perhaps the difficulties of TI BASIC, never fast at the best of times, have contributed to the poor impact that this game has made on me.

It might have some interest for younger gamers, but I doubt if they would stay interested for very long.

instructions	70%
playability	35%
graphics	65%
value for money	30%

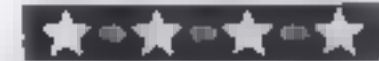


The fish's jaws snap salaciously and the score clocks up bottom right.

Sated with all this oral satisfaction, the player can next load Flutterer, the familiar game in which seeding the random function produces a vacillating but inevitably descending croaking mannikin, jerking his limbs to be zapped by missiles fired from a mobile collar stud at the

bottom of the screen. Incredibly the missiles also have jerky legs and the score piles up as before.

instructions	70%
playability	75%
graphics	80%
value for money	75%



Exterminator Commodore 64 £5.99

Bubble Bus, 87 High St, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1RX

This program closely resembles the well-loved caterpillar game albeit with differing participants.

You heroically endeavour to wipe out the sundry occupants of a field of mushrooms. The arch-protagonist is a worm which weaves its way down the screen.

If you shoot it, some of its segments are destroyed and turn into mushrooms and the beast splits into smaller, faster worms.

To annoy you, a noisy eagle flaps around trying to get you. Kill it for a random bonus.

From time to time a tarantula spider will amble across the bottom of the screen. You can't kill it but it can certainly sort you out.

The mayhem is increased by a scorpion which creeps across the screen turning mushrooms into white poisonous ones. If the worm hits one of these it moves straight down the screen.

The occasional mosquito appears to replenish the mushrooms in the field.

The animation and design of the creatures are brilliant and the overall pace of the game is fast. As your score increases things get faster, busier, noisier and meaner.

A freeze game option is available so that you can get a coffee and you can disable the sound if desired.

On the minus side, the instructions were barely adequate.

instructions	65%
playability	90%
graphics	90%
value for money	100%



California Goldrush Commodore 64 plus Joystick £7.95

Anik, 30 Kingcroft Court, Bellington, Northampton

You are a prospector, moving around squares on the screen trying to enclose them to stake your

claim. When one is enclosed, points are awarded proportional to the size of the claim that has been enclosed and the level that you are on.

While this is going on, there are two Indians trying their best to kill you by running into you or, on the higher levels, shooting arrows at you. They also erase the track you leave behind to encircle the claims.

You can stop them by leaving behind a stick of dynamite as you

move along. This will blow up and leave a pile of debris to obstruct them. It obstructs you, too, but the effect wears off in time.

Good graphics, with excellent representations of the prospector and Indians. Sound effects are reasonable.

There are options for a two-player game, and you can start at any of the 24 levels of play. A joystick must be used — there is no keyboard option.

The game is simple to learn and play, and is amusing — at first. The problem is that after a few plays it gets boring. There are no new surprises (apart from the arrows) as the game progresses.

instructions	70%
playability	30%
graphics	70%
value for money	50%



Electron by Joystick

I thought other TI owners would like to know about a conversion I have made which allows the Electron game in HCW 28 to be played with joysticks. This may also be used to create general purpose joystick subroutines — something I found hard at first.

My conversion also includes changes to CALL KEY statements, so that they will accept lower case letters as well as upper case.

```
860 CALL JOYSTIK(X,Y)
870 (ENTER)
880 IF X=4 THEN 885
    ELSE 890
885 IF Y=0 THEN 930
    ELSE 890
890 IF X=0 THEN 895
    ELSE 900
895 IF Y=-4 THEN 1020
    ELSE 900
900 IF X=0 THEN 905
    ELSE 910
905 IF Y=4 THEN 1110
    ELSE 910
910 IF X=-4 THEN 915
    ELSE 880
915 IF Y=0 THEN 1200
    ELSE 860
1840 CALL KEY(O,K,S)
1860 IF K=121 THEN 100
2470 IF K=121 THEN 2500
2480 IF K=110 THEN 2490
    ELSE 2420
2930 CALL KEY(O,K,S)
2950 IF K=114 THEN 2500
```

I also thought you'd like to know my high score on Parsec — 309,200. It would be interesting if other TI owners who read your magazine and own Parsec could write in with the high scores that they have got on this very hard game.

By the way, on a recent holiday to Corfu I was surprised to find a copy of HCW on sale in a newspaper there! R. C. Sanderson, Rotherham, South Yorks.

The bubble explodes

We were utterly amazed to read your review on our program called Hustler, a pool game for the Commodore 64. At the time we read it we had just sold out of them at the PCW show at the Barbican.

Your review mentions the program hanging up, and highlights various other defects. Unfortunately you have reviewed an early development copy which bears little resemblance to the finished article.

We would deem it a favour if you would put the record straight for your readers. Mark Meakings, Bubble Bus, Tonbridge, Kent

Send your letter to Letters, Home Computing Weekly, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0EE. Don't forget to name your computer — the best letter could win £5-worth of software. Got a problem with your micro? We'll soon be starting a queries page, so send your technical questions to queries at the above address



Missing symbols

I was pleased to see my COMX 35 program in HCW 31, but some of the program seems to have got lost along the way!

In case any readers were puzzled by the program, the missing bits are:

```
230 between A and 3 should be a less than sign
236 between B and 11 should be a less than sign
232 between A and 20 a greater than sign
234 between B and 28 a greater than sign
240 the character between quotes is shift 5
Deborah Horne
```

Checking out Checkers

I understand that some people have been having difficulties with my Micro Checkers program, published in HCW 31.

The program will run as listed, provided that the CTRL key is held down while the positions are chosen. This ensures that moves have to be made deliberately.

If a line 1105 is added: 1105 IF (R<4)+(R>19) THEN 1070 and line 1170 is altered to: 1170 IF (C<8)+(C>23) THEN 1130

then keys pressed without the control button being held down will have no effect and it will be impossible to pick a square off the board.

The program works in this way because lines 1070 and 1130 use key unit 4 in which control codes 1 to 31 are active. This way, the values returned when a key is pressed translate directly into positions on the board.

If you want to avoid having to press the CTRL key then you should alter line 1170 to read:

```
1170 IF (R<69)+(R>83)+(C<72)+(C>86) THEN 1210
```

In this way, the program

will work in its original form. If the line value 1210 is changed to 1070, the choice of squares off the board will be prevented.

If you choose to amend the program in this way you will also need to add two more lines:

```
1171 R=R-64
1172 C=C-64
Lance Booth, Barton-Trent, Staffs
```

Invader: Arcadia's answer

I was pleased to read the letter titled Mushroom Music in your No. 26 edition which gave me a ray of hope regarding Oric Invader which I ordered in March 1983 from Arcadia.

After reading Mr Love's letter regarding Arcadia problems, I wrote to Mr Love explaining that I sent a cheque for Oric Invader, that the cheque had been cashed and that I have not received the cassette yet.

After waiting one month for a reply from Mr Love (which seems to be normal reply time for computer companies), I thought it was time I wrote to Home Computing Weekly to let other readers know what they are leaving their money in for.

Mr Love's way of dealing with queries seems to be to forget them.

After reading several computer magazines my problem seems to be the norm and the way British firms get the work of capital?

M. Schofield, Wakefield, West Yorks.

Mr Love, of Arcadia,

Oh dear! That must have been one of the first orders we received for Oric Invader. I'll make sure Mr Schofield gets another tape. We did experience delivery delays when we switched duplicate companies due to hardware problems, but now we've delivered down to within a week of receiving the customer's order. Our tapes are also being distributed at some retail stores now.

Is this a record?

In HCW 24 you had an article about Parsec which mentioned that Tony Reid had achieved a score of 124,000 on the Parsec.

I have beaten this score easily with a score of 1,080,500 on my T199-66.

Has any other reader of HCW beaten this score? If not, is this an all-time high? Paul Hopkins, Downend, Bristol

Deal yourself in for patience galore

For anyone who likes playing patience games, here is the ultimate solitaire — no less than six different games.

The first, Hole in One, is here. There will be two more in next week's issue of Home Computing Weekly, two the week after, followed by the sixth game.

But you can start playing straight away after typing in the following listing.

Being very partial to all card games, I started with the idea of creating one or two patience games. However it has grown and continues to grow.

It is now quite a long listing and will require at least 32k to accept all six games.

Owners of 16k machines need not despair, though, because the games can be separated. Each will need the main initialisation and subroutines, which are common to all games.

Since the listing is modular, it is easy to add or delete games.

Most card players know the standard patience games of Klondike or one of its many variations (building up suit sequences on aces). I would have liked to include this one but couldn't quite get enough cards on screen when a column contains the maximum number of cards. This restriction is due to the need to get the denomination and suit of each card clearly visible.

So the six games are all entirely different from Klondike and also offer quite a variety.

A player missile cursor is used in each game to highlight the chosen card. Joystick (0) is used to move the cursor.

Hole in One is not easy to complete but provides a good challenge. The object of the game is to collect all the cards into one pile and some thought is needed when choosing the card to be picked up.

Any number of cards can be taken in succession providing they match or are in suit sequence, either up or down, to the top card of the discard pile. Cards can only be taken from the bottom of a column so it is important to note what card becomes available as you remove the lowest one.

Sometimes, picking cards up in a certain order will gain extra cards from the layout.

For example: Top card of discard pile is a three of Clubs. Immediately available from the layout are three of Hearts, three

If you're an Atari owner who's keen on cards, Les Howarth has a great set of programs for you to type in. You can play straight away — and add more games with the next three issues of HCW

of Diamonds, or four of Clubs. Suppose above the three of Hearts there is four of Diamonds. Take them in this order: 3 H, 3 D, 4 D, 4 C, and you get them all but taken any other way would only get one or two cards at the most.

Note: Owners of 16K machines should SAVE this listing twice, one version minus the lines which are unique to game one — 600-660, 810-930 and 9100-9150. You will need the second listing for the next five games.



How it works Hole in One and Initialisation

20-60 set up player cursor. Strings are used to hold the data, which allows fast vertical movement in player missile graphics. Important: Player strings must be DIMensioned immediately. The reason is that each variable is placed in a table within memory, in the same order that you type them in. Player/missile data is then tied to the first string in the table so be sure to type line 20 first.

70 branches to subroutines for initialisation, introduction and rules for each game.

200-540 subroutines common to all games. This section decides denomination and suit of a card and prints on screen.

600-660 set up game 1. Cards are shuffled and dealt to the layout. The deck is stored in Array P, and at this stage the cards are simply numbered, 1 to 52. As cards are dealt card value is also placed into array D. This same arrangement is used in each game.

700-740 joystick routine, again common to all games. This also constantly checks to see if any function keys have been

pressed. Pressing Option Key will re-start the game you are currently playing. Pressing Start Key will return menu to allow a different game to be re-selected.

810-930 belong to game 1 only. Card selection and movement is dealt with here. Check to also made to see if game has been completed or if deck is empty.

1000-1300 sound routines.

2000-2005 sets up a table of constants, memory saving device well worth using in such a long program. Each of these constants save six bytes of memory each time they are used, as opposed to normal numbers.

4010-4040 DIMensions and initialises strings. Cursor control characters are used extensively within strings to force the cursor to move to different starting points, avoiding lots of position statements.

4050 fills A \$ with hearts. Hearts are used in player/missile strings.

6060 clears Array D which is used to hold the layout for each game.

8100-8310 introduction, menu. A display list interrupt is put into page six in order to add extra colour.

9000 onward. Instructions.

Special Instructions

Parts of this listing contain graphic characters and cursor arrows. The letters U, D, L, R indicate arrow characters which must be printed within the state-

For example: U indicates an arrow facing up, D indicates down

To print an arrow, first press Esc key then hold down the CTRL key and at the same time press the appropriate arrow key.

Other characters are obtained by pressing the keys indicated.

25 B \$ (1) = ESC/DEL B \$ (36)

= ESC/DEL. The other

characters printed on this line

are hearts CTRL/COMMA

200 NU \$: "D D L"; SL \$

530 each suit character appears

on this line in this order

CTRL/P CTRL/FULL

STOP CTRL/COMMA

CTRL/SEMICOLON

600 print HOLE IN ONE in

inverse characters

840 CTRL/Z CTRL/R CTRL/R

CTRL/C

900 clear screen character ESC/

SHIFT/CLEAR

8020 CTRL/Q CTRL/R CTRL/

E D L L L L, A vertical line using

shift/Down Arrow, 2

spaces, vertical line D L L L L

Vertical line, 2 spaces, vertical

line D L L L L, vertical line, 2

spaces, vertical line, D L L L L

. CTRL / CTRL R

CTRL R CTRL/C

BLANK \$ is similar to CARD \$

but contains only the cursor

arrows in exactly the same

positions

8030 FD \$ is a face down card.

Same as CARD \$ but the ver-

tical lines and the spaces are

printed in inverse

8050 A \$ (1) = CTRL/COMMA

A \$ (12) = CTRL/COMMA

8103-8104 gives each game title

preceded by a graphic

character. When the menu is

displayed these characters will

appear as numbers. This is

done for more colour. Print

as: CTRL/Q(space)HOLE

IN ONE. CTRL/R(space)Ti-

tle. CTRL/S (space) Title.

CTRL/T etc, CTRL/U etc,

CTRL/V etc

8105 inverse for words OPTION

and START

8109 will accept any game

number from 1 to 6. As there

is only one game at the mo-

ment it would be advisable to

alter GM (greater than) N6 to

GM (greater than) N1 to avoid

any errors. As each game is

added this number (N) can be

increased by one

8120 ESC/SHIFT/CLEAR

8250 use inverse CTRL(SEMI-

COLON

10020 ESC/SHIFT/CLEAR



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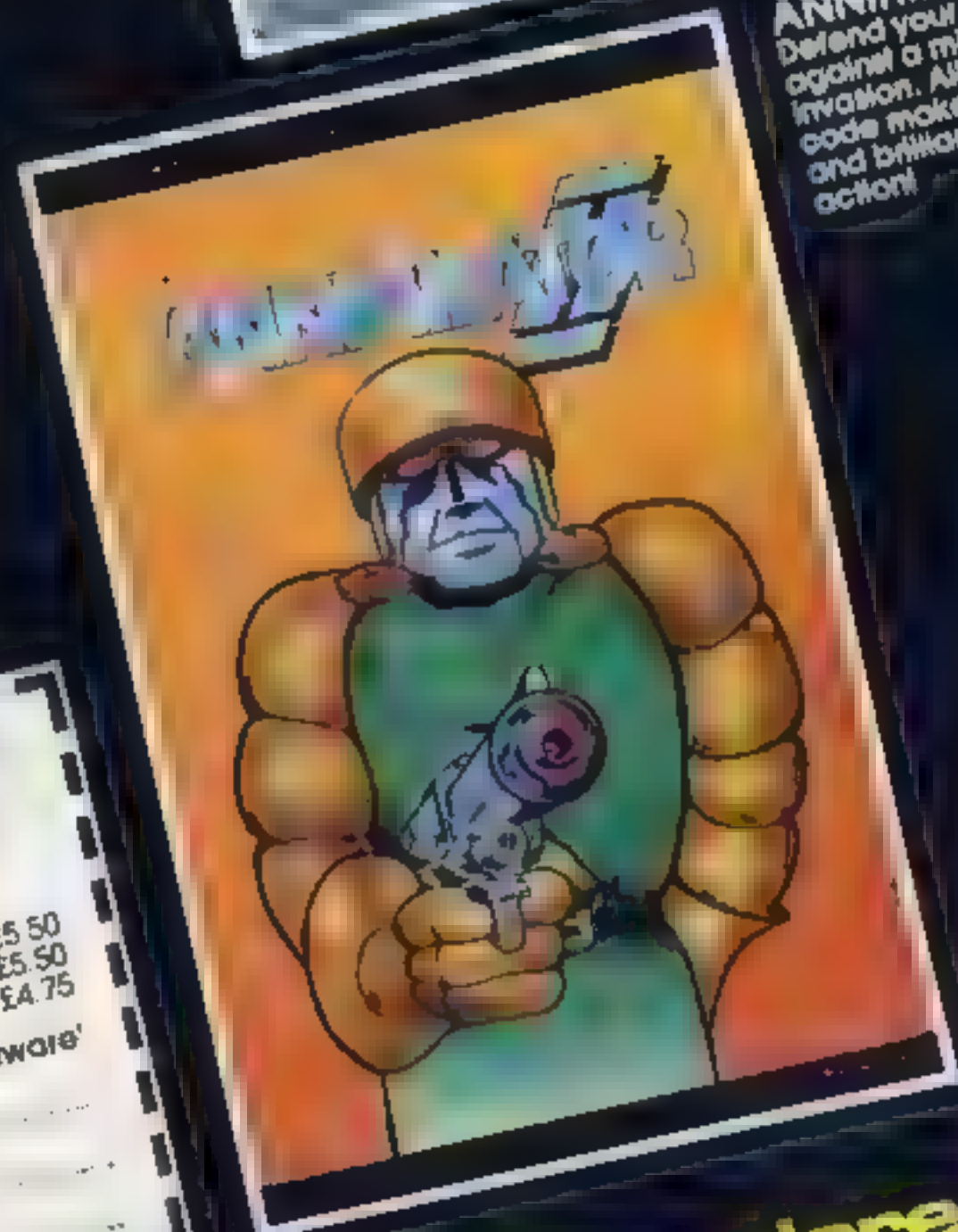
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VIC-20 GAMES AND UTILITIES

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This is it, the ultimate Fruit Machine for the VIC with nudge, hold and respin 100% machine code. "Overall Jackpot is a beautifully written simulation giving superb graphics, animation and use of colour. In fact, this program makes Commodore's Fruit Machine cartridge look unbelievably cheap and nasty." Home Computing Weekly No. 20 19/7/83. £5.50

KWAZY KWAKS

Accuracy and speed are required for this Shooting Gallery, superb use of colour and graphics in this new and challenging game from the author of Jackpot. 100% machine code, joystick or keyboard control. £5.50

PACMANIA

Choose your own game from the following options — difficulty 1-3 speed 1-3, size of maze 1-3, visible or invisible maze, still or moving power pills, define your own key controls, any combination, if this is your type of game, then this is the one for you, for the 3K expand VIC. £5.50

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This is a Minefield with a difference as you step on the stones whilst collecting purple boxes which give you both time and points, they disappear from beneath your feet. DO NOT DESPAIR! "BUGSY" will randomly replace the stones but avoid bumping into him or its sudden death! An original compulsive and challenging game. £5.50

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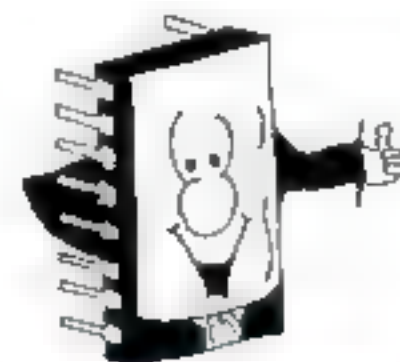
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DEALER ENQUIRES WELCOME



Space Caverns
32K BBC £6.95

Byteware, Unit 25, Handyside Arcade, Newcastle NE1 4P2

The quality of home computer software has risen dramatically over the last year with the vast growth in the market for the products

This means that games which would have been perfectly acceptable a year ago have to compete with games of a much higher standard today. This game is written to last year's standard, and unfortunately has little to recommend it now

The aim of the game is to penetrate further and further in to the caverns, using the Lunar Lander technique of thrust against gravity and directional movement in short bursts. The

graphic screens are acceptable but in no way exceptional, and have one major problem

When you finish one screen by thrusting off the right hand edge you arrive on the left hand of the next cavern. Unfortunately, though, there is no sideways scroll routine, so the screen blanks for a second or so while a new screen is drawn

This means that you lose control at a time when it is needed, which can end the game prematurely

Overall, most disappointing — a game to avoid. **D.C**

instructions	50%
playability	10%
graphics	30%
value for money	10%



How to get lost in space

Meanwhile, back in the outer reaches of the galaxy, the fight goes on... read our reviewers' reports

asteroids push you around the screen at a rapid rate of knots

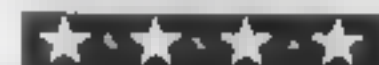
Only one key can be acted upon at a time, but even no reasonably good control can be achieved. When you clear the screen of one batch of asteroids along come another crowd

The running score is shown, but no record is kept of the highest to date — feasible because of the battery-backing of the module

The second game Megafighter, is a Berzerk type

game requiring joysticks and there is some awkwardness because of that alphalock key it must be pressed to issue instructions for loading, but released to ensure the joystick works correctly. **P.B.**

instructions	60%
playability	90%
graphics	85%
value for money	75%



Outland/ Megafighter
TI-99/4A plus MiniMemory, Joysticks £17

By Roach Software, from Stainless Software, 10 Alstone Road, Stockport

Outland is an Asteroids clone which achieves its arcade quality of movement through sprites

You can control your ship using the keyboard, rotating clockwise and anti-clockwise, moving forward in the direction in which your ship is pointing, firing similarly, and there is also a shield which stops you from getting crunched. **RS** lets the

Protector
48K Lynx £6.95

Sian Software, 139 Rosebery Avenue, Manor Park, London E12 6P7

This package consists of two programs. The first is an introduction, explaining the main rules of the game, and the second is the main program

This starts by asking for the user's name and explaining the scoring

The user then becomes commander of a protector ship with a mission to exterminate aliens from 10 sectors of space. The first task is a tedious space scan to detect the mother alien ship

The game now begins by the mother ship attacking with four consecutive waves of different aliens. The protector ship, which can be moved from left to right using the arrow keys, must

destroy the aliens by shooting darts from below

Each alien destroyed from the first wave counts 10 points from the second 20, 30 from the third and 40 from the fourth. Once all these aliens have been destroyed the mother ship must be eliminated

After refuelling and a further space scan the process is repeated until all 10 sectors of space are free of aliens. The score is displayed during the game and at the end is incorporated into an honours list

Although the game may at first appear repetitive it is well presented and challenging. **R.S.**

instructions	90%
playability	80%
graphics	80%
value for money	70%



Planet Destroyer
TI-99/4A £6

Stainless Software, 10 Alstone Road, Stockport

As the commander of the Starship Patrician, your mission is to guide your ship to the heart of the alien planet. You must steer your ship through twisting tunnels, avoiding or destroying the enemy missiles and refuelling as necessary

There are 20 sectors to go through before your mission is complete. I have only mastered half of them, but this just adds to the excitement of this very good game

Full instructions are given on an inlay card, and brief prompts are contained in the program. The graphics are very well presented and so is the sound

which is generated while the game is in progress. The sound which accompanies the on-screen instructions is rather excessive, though.

On several occasions I have had trouble in loading the lengthy program but the error is at the beginning of the tape — the count may be too long

The program seems to be bug free with one exception. The refuelling instructions say fire your gun at the fuel dumps to refuel but I have found that colliding with them has the same effect

This game is well thought out, and makes the most of TI BASIC and colour. **C.E.**

instructions	90%
playability	90%
graphics	90%
value for money	90%



Spacefighter Pilot/Missile Man
Jupiter Ace
£5.95

Jupiter Cantab, Cheshunt Building, Bateman Street, Cambridge CB2 1LZ

The unexpanded Jupiter Ace has only about 1K of user RAM

available for programs, but these two demonstrate convincingly what a lot can be done by a skilled programmer within this limitation

Using a mixture of Forth and machine code, Spacefighter Pilot speeds off down a realistic runway into a flickering galaxy of stars

Moving lines produce a most realistic sensation of motion until the jump into hyperspace, with a choice of two warp

speeds, both good and fast

There are the usual space noises for background, while a running total of missiles zapped or evaded is conspicuously signalled at the bottom of the screen

The instructions are barely adequate, but the user will sort them out eventually, though if he can operate the one to shut off the space noises he'll do better than I did

Missile Man has only one gun

in this remarkably successful attempt to reproduce something of the traditional arcade space invaders game within the limits of monochrome 1K. **G.M.**

instructions	70%
playability	90%
graphics	95%
value for money	95%



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Spook 64 Commodore 64 £7.95

Byteware, Unit 25, Handyside Arcade, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 4PZ

Another Pacman clone. The thing that goes around eating all the dots is there in all his glory, the dots are here, the power pills are there, and the proverbial ghosts

are there ready to eat you. All that's missing is the fruit.

Having said that, the maze is much simpler than in the original, and I think that's a big mistake — it gives you less places to hide from the spooks, though there is a tunnel.

The spooks move faster than the Pacman, which can cause problems in a straight chase. The power pills work in the same fashion as the Atari version, and the spooks can be got — but they

always get revenge.

Graphics are good — a straight reproduction of the original — but the sound is hopelessly, amounting to a few feeble clicks when you eat a dot and a few beeps when you eat a power pill.

There is a joystick option, so all movement is from the keyboard, and the response could be a lot better.

Overall, though, this is a pretty faithful reproduction of the original. **M R**

instructions	70%
playability	80%
graphics	90%
value for money	70%



Mazeman Lynx 48K £4.95

Abersoft, 7 Maes Afallen, Bow Street, Dyfed SY24 1BA

This machine-coded game is fast, well designed and enjoyable to play. It can be operated by the Computers' joysticks or by using the arrow keys.

The maze displayed on the screen is divided into squares, and the aim of the game is for a Mazeman to collect these squares by passing through them. Each square is worth ten points.

However, also in the maze are found Hobgoblin monsters searching for the Mazeman to gobble him up.

The Mazeman can counter attack by passing through one of four special squares. These give him about 10 seconds to slay as many of the monsters as possible, so enabling him to pass

through more squares before other hobgoblins are released from the central cage.

Notwithstanding its simplicity, this game is very challenging and addictive. One soon begins to hate the hobgoblins, constantly trying to avoid them with manic fervour.

Improvements could have been made to the game by having more variations built into the program — such as different levels of difficulty — and by having more sound effects during the different operations.

But considering all these factors and the price, Mazeman is a good buy. **R S.**

instructions	85%
playability	85%
graphics	80%
value for money	95%



Labyrinth Lynx 48K £4.75

Quazar Computing, 17 Teg Close, Portsmouth, Sussex BN4 2GZ

Loading this tape proved to be very difficult, but in the end the effort was well worth while. The aim of this game is to find the quickest way through a maze. At the start there is the option of seeing its plan with the position of the player and the exit clearly marked.

The player can be moved in all directions through the maze by the use of the arrow keys while the screen displays a three-dimensional view from the player's position inside the maze. This has been accomplished simply but ingeniously by line drawings.

If the arrow keys are pressed quickly the different images of

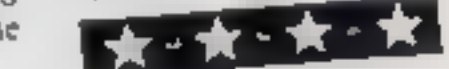
the maze also change quickly, so creating a feeling of running through the maze.

At any time the user feels hopelessly lost, pressing H will display the plan with the latest position.

Once the exit has been found you are told how many moves it took to escape and how many times help was required.

The last amusing surprise of this program is the display of the progress through the maze. Although this game needs a little more refining it is still an excellent and imaginative production. **R S.**

instructions	80%
playability	85%
graphics	95%
value for money	90%



Corridors of Genon 48K Spectrum £5.95

New Generation Software Freeport, Bath, BA2 4TD

Way back in the annals of Sinclartology, this company produced a classic for the ZX81 called 3D Monster Maze. Many

variations of the 3D theme followed, but this time they have produced a variation which is just as brilliant.

The maze in this program is circular and has doors which open and close. The beastie is a Bogul which drains your mental power and you have to reach the centre, deactivate the computer (a mastermind-type exercise) and escape.

The 3D effect is achieved by perspective and should not be

confused with the latest 3D via red and blue glasses. Nevertheless, it is a superb program graphically and a well-conceived plot.

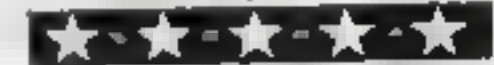
Sound is very effective — those footsteps really spur you on.

The cassette insert is colourful and contains full instructions plus scenario. Also supplied is a keyboard overlay, and the program loaded easily. Control is via the cursor keys, with a special

section converted to a numeric keypad.

You can practice your computer deactivating skill or choose to play the full game at one of three levels and at one of three speeds. **R.E.**

instructions	92%
playability	97%
graphics	98%
value for money	100%



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Then cut around the broken lines, seal the drawing with coupon attached in an envelope — and write clearly on the back of the envelope the number of differences you found

Post your entry to New Generation Competition, Home Computing Weekly, 145 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0JE

Entries close at first post on Friday November 18. The winner of the main prize will be the first correct entry opened. And the 100 software winners will be the next 100 correct entries opened

You may enter as many times as you wish, but all entries must be on the official coupon — copies will not be accepted — and in separate envelopes

The solution and the names of the winners will be published in the news columns of Home Computing Weekly and the prizes will arrive from New Generation within 28 days of the publication date of that issue

The rules

The first prize winner will be the first correct entry opened after the closing date, first post on Friday November 18, 1983. The other 100 prizes will go to entrants with the next 100 correct entries opened

Coupons which are not fully completed and envelopes without the number of differences found on the back will not be considered

Entries will not be accepted from employees of Argus Specialist Publications, New Generation Software and Alabaster Passmore & Sons. This restriction also applies to employees, families and agents of the companies

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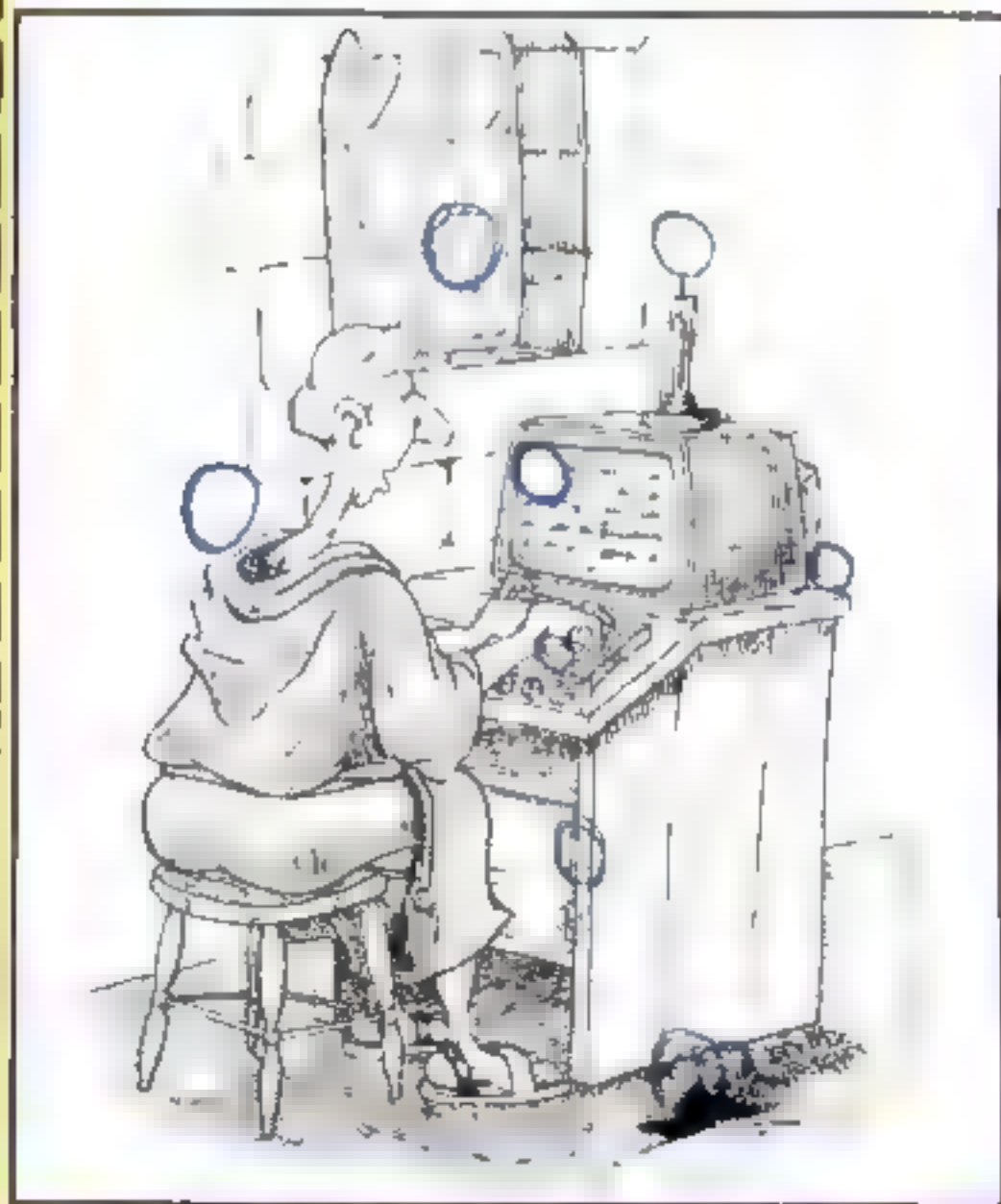
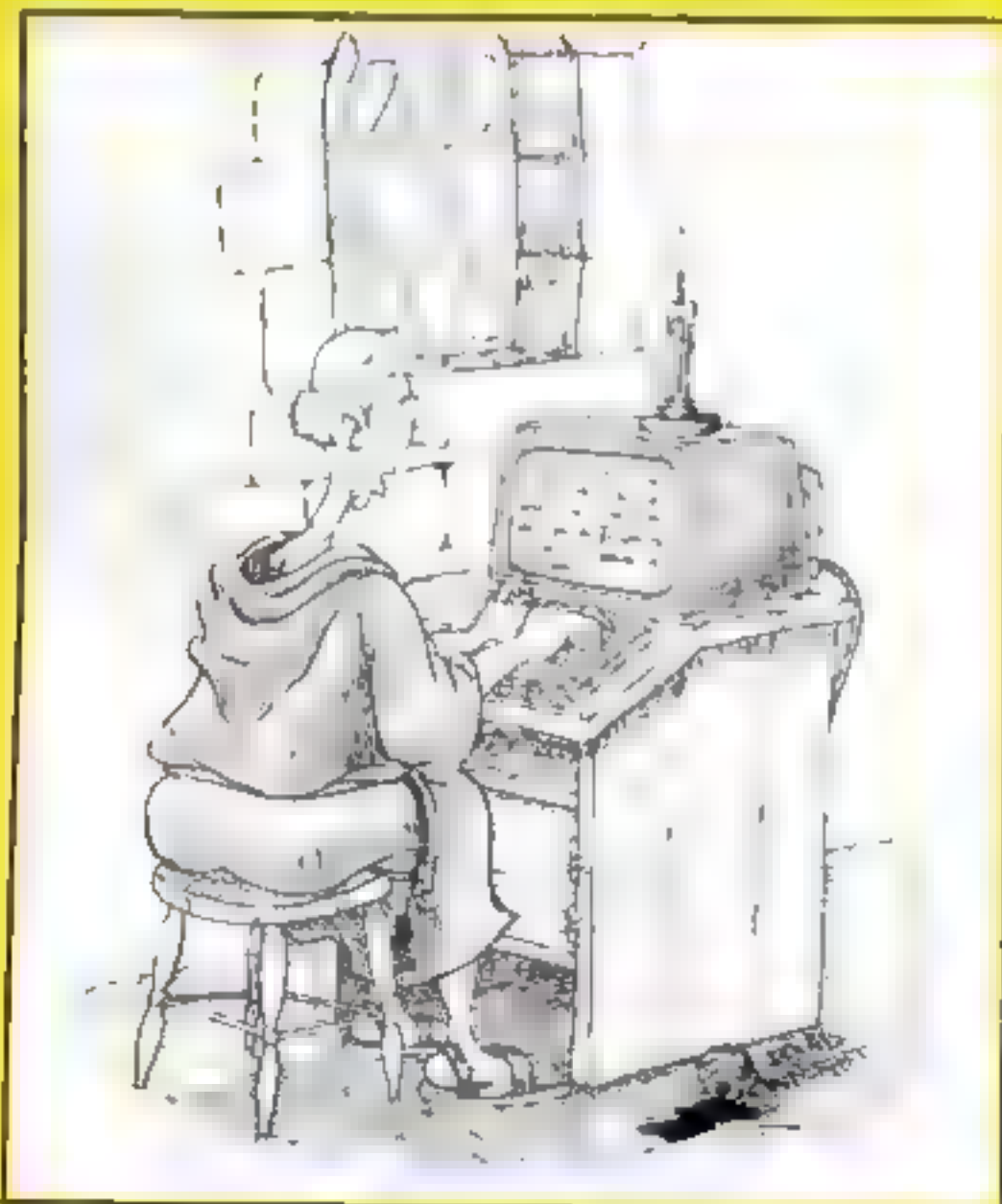
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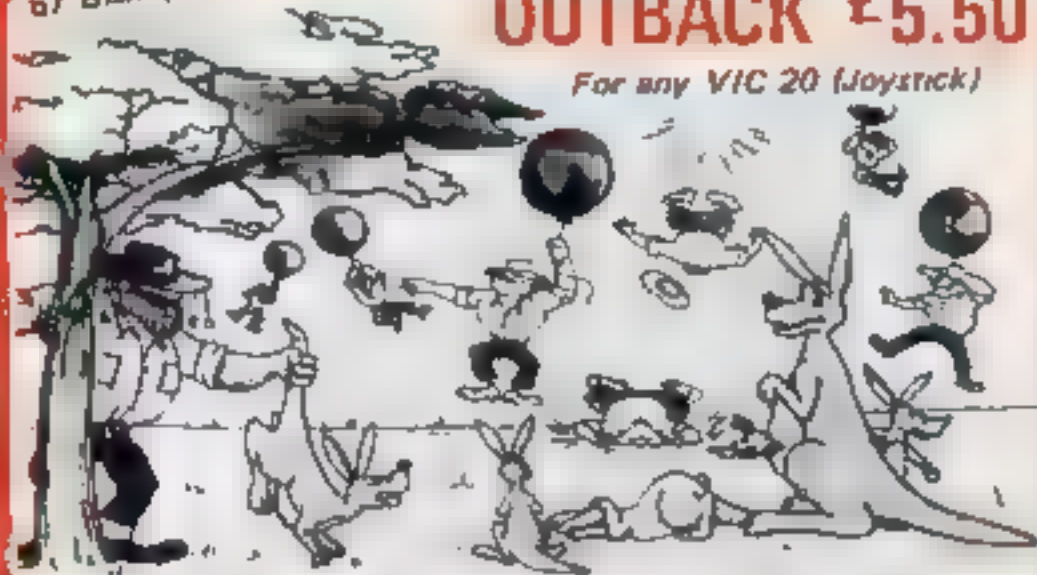
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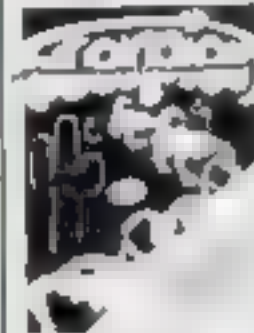
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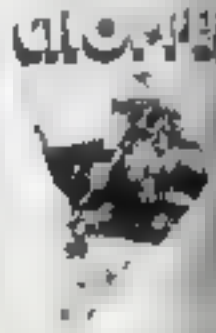
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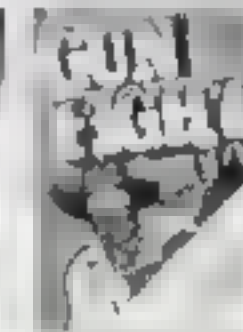
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Confessions of an old whizz-kid

One of the problems of making it in the software business is that you no longer have time to write programs. Don Priestley had gone home for a peaceful afternoon's programming on dk'tronics forthcoming 'all



Don Priestley — an evening class started him on a new career

singing, all-dancing animated picture puzzle", away from the interruptions of the office

No sooner had he sat down at the keyboard than HCW interrupted him. It would never have happened in the early days

dk'tronics started life in a back bedroom in Great Yarmouth. David Heelas, dk'tronics' managing director, used to make ZX80 and ZX81 add-ons and memory expansion units in the time he had to spare from running a one-man car repair business. Gradually, the demand for add-ons grew, and the computer business started to take over from the car repairs

In 1981, David Heelas became aware that though computer add-ons sold well, the demand for software was even greater. He'd written a couple of ZX81 programs himself, and started to commission software from freelance software writers. And that was how he met up with Don Priestley

David Priestley had been a teacher until, as he remembers it, "one happy day in 1975 I just stopped". He did various odd jobs, including selling double glazing door to door, then finally

Candice Goodwin heard how a car-repairer and a double-glazing salesman became directors of dk'tronics



David Heelas — his software business developed from selling ZX81 add-ons

questions about 3D Tanx, and he turned out to be from Smiths. The number of tapes he wanted for his first order — 4,000 — came to more than all the tapes we'd then sold by mail order."

By then, David Heelas had a business that was growing almost in spite of himself. "He's first and foremost an entrepreneur rather than a businessman", according to Don, "but he was told that his business would have to be put on a firm footing." So he decided to move from Great Yarmouth to the rather less inaccessible Saffron Walden, and asked Don to move down from Lancaster and join him full time

Don is now software director, supervising dk'tronics' two in-house programmers Andy French and Paul Johnson, as well

old whizz kid", Don reckons that on the whole, young means good as far as games programming is concerned. "Young people do tend to be better. We've got a 15-year-old programmer who can do a program conversion in about a week"

He also has to take care of program evaluation. "We get about four programs a day to evaluate. It's the middle-of-the-road ones that take the most time"

Though dk'tronics now has 46 software titles, for the Spectrum, BBC, Commodore 64, Atari and VIC-20, about half the titles are for the Spectrum. But the company is bringing out some of its Spectrum best-sellers, like 3D Tanx and Dictator, for the BBC and Commodore 64 too. And Don says that dk'tronics has got "a first" for all the machines but the Atari. "It's a puzzle called Slicker which is as simple but as complex as the Rubik's Cube."

Now dk'tronics is looking around for the next computer to back with a software support, but it's not an easy decision. "It's a chicken and egg situation", Don says

"Machines have failed because of lack of software support, but on the other hand we don't want to write software for a machine that isn't a good seller. We've approached manufacturers and manufacturers have approached us, but we're still making our minds up — it'll take a major commitment"

dk'tronics

got interested in computing after a computer evening class he attended, "to show willing", with his son. He invested £100 of his unemployment money in a ZX81, in kit form, and a RAMpack, and started to write programs

One of his early ZX81 programs was Mazogs. Bug-Byte got that one, but dk'tronics was one of the companies in the bidding and Don subsequently wrote several ZX81 and Spectrum programs for David Heelas, including 3D Tanx and Dictator. "I didn't even see him for nine months, because I was living in Lancaster and he was in Great Yarmouth", Don recalls. "We actually met for the first time at a ZX Microfair in September 1982."

That Microfair also marked dk'tronics' entry into chain store sales. Don recalled: "This bloke came along and started asking

as 20 or so outside programmers. Though he describes himself as 'the wrong side of 40 — a sort of



Programmers Andy French



... and Paul Johnson

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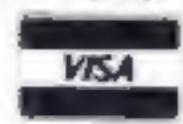
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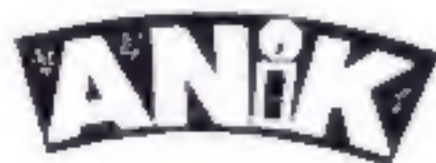
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